



The Bethel Citizen

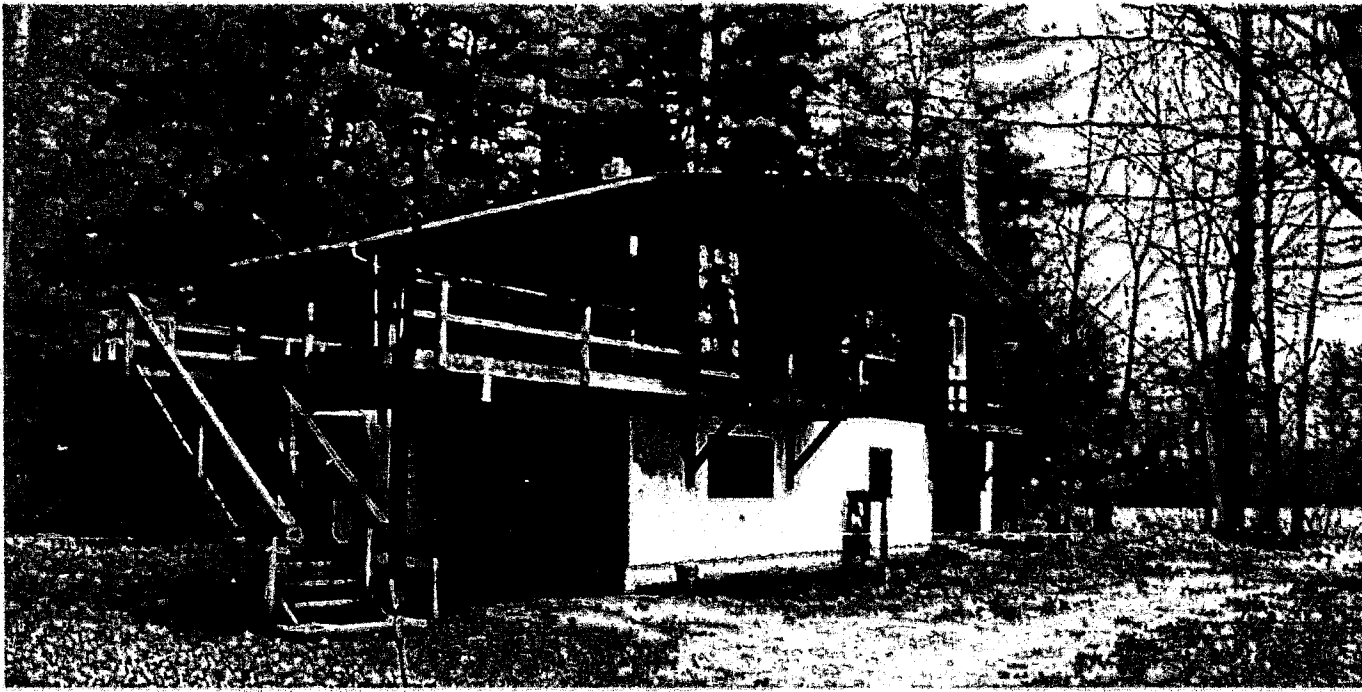
Vol. CXXI - No. 17

Thursday • April 28, 2016

90¢ a Copy

Serving Bethel and neighboring communities in the mountains of western Maine

Valentines leave 142-acre property in Bethel to MLT



The Valentine home on the North Road in Bethel. The Mahoosuc Land Trust hopes to open its new office there sometime this summer. A. Aloisio

Land Trust to create community conservation center with property gift

The Mahoosuc Land Trust is the beneficiary of a bequest of 142 acres of land from the estates of Richard and Mary Valentine of Bethel, according to a press release.

The brother and sister grew up in Pittsburg, Pa., spending summers with their grandparents in Bethel. The Valentine family owned the farm for five generations.

The land, located on both sides of North Road, includes open fields, productive forests, Androscoggin River frontage and a two-story building. The Land Trust will be

moving its offices to the second floor.

The first floor will provide a community meeting space for educational programs and hands-on workshops in collaboration with local schools and community groups.

Jim Mitchell, executive director, said that "in conversations with Dick Valentine, he would focus on the value of his land as wildlife habitat. He saw deer and bear from his porch and took a great interest in the waterfowl in the nearby creek. The farm is a gift of love inspired by a deep connection to the land, its history and the community."

The Land Trust's goal for the Valentine Farm Conservation Center is "to create a place to connect people with the land and with other people."

"We want the Farm to become a dynamic conservation center where the experience of hands-on nature is foremost," the release said. "The Land Trust Board of Directors is looking at uses of the Valentine Farm to include easily accessible nature trails, wildlife programs, and sustainable agriculture and forestry."

The release said the MLT Board of Directors "is optimistic that the Valentine Farm Community Conservation Area will be a living demonstration of how conservation can improve our lives and communities."

More information is available at the MLT website at www.mahoosuc.org or by contacting Mitchell at 207-824-3806 or jm@mahoosuc.org.

Founded in 1989, the Mahoosuc Land Trust is an accredited community land trust encouraging

See VALENTINE, Page 4

Greenwood budget proposal includes Bird Hill work

By ALISON ALOISIO

At the May 21 annual Town Meeting, Greenwood residents will consider a proposed municipal expense budget of \$1,185,226, about \$35,000 higher than last year's.

Included in the budget are proposed capital improvements of \$31,000 for dirt road repairs and \$10,000 for a drilled well at the Highway Garage.

Town Manager Kim Sparks said dirt road repairs are proposed for the Bird Hill, Sheepskin Bog and Hobbs roads, all of which experienced significant mud problems this spring. There were particular concerns from Bethel residents of the Bird Hill Road, who account for most of the houses on the road.

If approved, the work would include placing fabric and additional gravelroad on the roads, Sparks said.

The Highway Garage's dug well often dries up in the summer, she said, prompting the request for a new drilled well.

Other notable changes within the municipal budget from last year include a \$28,000 increase in the Fire Department budget, proposed at \$120,000 this year. Wages and compensation are proposed to increase from \$65,200 to \$90,000 and truck repairs/fuel to go up from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

See GREENWOOD, Page 2

Dick Melville reflects on 60 years of local education

By AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN

When Dick Melville completes his current term on the SAD 44 School Board this spring, it will mark one of the first times in 60 years that neither he nor his wife Beverly will play an official role in local education.

In that time, Dick has logged a total of 34 years as a school director, having left the board only for a period that included the 18 years during which Beverly taught English at Telstar, when he was ineligible to serve.

He first joined the Green-

wood School Board in 1956, helping to oversee the operations of the three-room Locke's Mills School and the three remaining one-room schoolhouses in other parts of town.

"I had a young family, and I decided to get involved," he said of joining the board in his mid-twenties.

Back then, eighth-grade graduations for Greenwood students were held at the Town Hall and were important community events, attended not just

See MELVILLE, Page 3

SAD 44 board debates administration costs; approves \$10.6 million budget

By AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN

The SAD 44 School Board voted Monday to send the district's budget for the 2017 fiscal year, as well as three proposed capital improvement projects, to voters for their approval at the annual public budget meeting, to be scheduled for late May.

If approved at the public meeting, the proposed FY

'17 general fund budget of \$10,594,389 would be subject to a budget validation vote in each of the district's towns.

The budget for the 2016-17 school year is down by 0.63 percent, or just under \$67,000, from that of the current fiscal year.

At the March School Board meeting, Finance Committee members had explained that most dis-

trict towns will see greater decreases in their education costs, an average of 3.68 percent, due to an increase in the state subsidy and carryover from the current budget.

The total amount of the local share to be raised by the towns is down by about \$300,000.

The board voted 9-1, with Greenwood director Norman Milliard opposed, to

approve the proposed budget.

Earlier in the meeting, Milliard had thanked the Finance Committee for their work on the budget, but added that he was disappointed the budget had not undergone a five percent overall reduction, as first proposed at the committee level when budget talks began.

See BUDGET, Page 4

Roof, playground, pellet system added

By AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN

The School Board Monday voted unanimously to add an article to the public budget meeting warrant (see related story above)

asking voters to approve an expenditure of \$90,000 from the capital improvement account to complete roof repairs at the Telstar complex.

"This will finish off the high school roofs," said Facilities Manager Ron Deegan. "Every other roof in the district is in good shape. We should be good for years to come."

The board also voted unanimously to add an article that will ask voters if they wish to approve the expenditure of \$116,000 from the capital improvement account for playground equipment at Crescent Park and Woodstock Elementary Schools.

In response to safety concerns by parents, the CPS playground equipment

and the WES climbing structure were inspected last fall and subsequently removed. They will be replaced with new equipment that complies with current safety standards.

At CPS, two former playgrounds will be replaced with a single playground for all students. The expenditure will provide for a basic structure, and the PTA plans to continue to fundraise to add to it in the future.

CPS BOILER SYSTEM
The final item on Monday's agenda asked the

See ADDED, Page 4



SAD 44 School Board member Dick Melville, right, speaks with an unidentified colleague in front of the newly built Telstar High School, which opened in 1968. Submitted photo

Mahoosuc Kids Association & Bethel Recreation Department Spring Swim Lessons

Thursday afternoons - May 5, 12, 19, & 26th beginning at 3:30PM.

Times will be determined by class and participation. Classes offered in May - Parent and child (infant-2) Toddler/Preschool (ages 3-4) and Level 1: Introduction to Water skills.

This session is for our youngest swimmers, classes for school age swimmers will begin in July.

Swim lessons will be offered at the Riverview Pool

The price for lessons will be \$25 for one child or \$35 per family.

For sign up information contact

Julie Hart at

Mahoosuc Kids Association

824-7007 or mka@sad44.org.

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for information leading to the return of a black 20' long equipment trailer w/2 axels. Went missing from construction site on Chandler Hill between April 2 - 14th. Call 890-6637

The Bethel Citizen

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Letters

RELAY FOR LIFE YARD SALE ITEMS SOUGHT

To the Editor:

The Relay for Life Flying Monkey's team is looking for donations for a yard sales fundraiser to benefit the American Cancer Society, scheduled for May 21.

Donations of household items, small furniture, kitchen items, books, tools, etc. are being sought from now until May 20. No large furniture or clothing please. Items can be dropped off at Bethel Kitchen's on Main Street in Bethel. Any questions please e-mail flyingmonkeyrelay1@gmail.com

The yard sale will take place from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the 21st, with the location to be determined. This will be updated.

Celeste Keith
Bethel

CHRISTMAS FOR FAMILIES

To the Editor:

Christmas for Families would like to send a special thank you to Heather, Dave from the Good Food Store, and Nancy for all the beautiful fabric they delivered and donated. We can make wonderful things for the families that we try to help. If there is anyone that likes to sew or has some ideas what we can do with some of the fabric please feel free to let us know. We especially would like help using Supplex and Ultrax fabrics. We have started making blankets, vest and fleece pants.

We would also like to take this time to thank the many people that dropped off things at Maine Street Realty for Christmas for Families this past year and didn't leave their names. Also found things at our home with no names. It is heartwarming to experience how much people are willing to help others.

We look forward to another wonderful year as we start for the next year as soon as we are done with one.

Nina Wheeler
Director, Christmas for Families

SUPPORT SOLAR BILL

To the Editor:

I am writing in support of LD 1649: The Solar Bill. Last week, Maine's Senate passed it. The vote was 91 to 56. The crafting of this bill was a collaborative effort between Maine's public advocate (whose role is to keep prices low for Maine ratepayers), CMP, and a wide coalition of solar advocates.

In spite of the vote, Gov. LePage is still threatening to veto the bill. Approximately five more senators and representatives are needed to override his veto.

Gov. LePage is claiming that he is against it because it is not fair to consumers who do not have solar installed. And yet the Maine Public Advocate, Tim Schneider, who was appointed by LePage and represents the interests of rate payers said the bill would save Maine ratepayers \$58 million over 20 years.

Why support this Solar Bill:

- Creates over 800 solar jobs across wide geographic area of Maine
- Saves over \$55 million to all utility ratepayers in Maine

- Breaks down barriers that keep apartment dwellers and low-income homeowners from going solar
- Allows cities, towns, and larger businesses to save money with solar energy

Friday, April 29 is the day our legislators will be deciding to override the bill. Here's how Legislators in our districts voted:

Against: Rep. Fran Head, 650-1351, Frances.Head@legislature.maine.gov

For: (Please thank them.)

Sen. John Patrick, 364-7666, Senjohnpatrick14@gmail.com

Rep. Matt Peterson 776-8051, petersonhouse08@gmail.com

This Solar Bill LD 1649 is the right legislation at the right time for Maine to take advantage of the energy savings, economy boosting, and environmental conserving potential of Renewable solar power. It is imperative that we protect it from Gov. LePage's veto.

Emily Ecker
Woodstock

ASA THURLOW DESCENDENTS SOUGHT

To the Editor:

Asa Thurlow (1760-1840) is a Revolutionary War Veteran that is buried in Curtis Hill Cemetery, Woodstock, Maine.

Judith Grover Tent #17, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War wishes to replace his illegible gravestone with a new veteran's stone.

Descendants are asked to contact Sally Sawyer, Patriotic Instructor, Judith Grover Tent #17 as soon as possible for more information. Telephone is 207-665-2641 (please leave a message if no answer).

Thank you.

Elsie B. Bonney
Woodstock

ON GENDER IDENTITY

To the Editor:

I would like to respond to Carmine Castaldo's letter to the Editor and try to shed light on an often confusing and misunderstood topic. Gender is not based on what is written on a birth certificate, it's not a black and white issue, it is not just about being male with XY chromosomes and female with XX chromosomes. There are all kinds of variations within the gender realm. For example a person who is genetically male (XY) could have complete androgen-insensitivity syndrome when the external genitalia is female but not fully developed AND the person has testes. There is a condition in which a person is born with both XX and XY chromosomes. So what are they male or female? What does a doctor put on the birth certificate? There are all kinds of genetic anomalies that develop in people and nothing is clear cut.

When a fetus is developing in the womb the brain develops in the presence or absence of a hormone called dihydrotestosterone that masculinizes or feminizes the individual, respectively. This means that a person who presents as a male or female at birth will begin to question their sexual identity before, during or after puberty. They may choose to go through gender reassignment because of this mismatch that occurred in the womb. Again there are variations of gender identity within the population. Look around; there is a continuum of how gender is displayed. Not only do people look different, have different abilities and talents, speak differently, respond differently, let's face it, we are each different in almost every way, including gender identity.

I use to feel uncomfortable and confused when I learned of a person who changed genders but have changed my tune when a friend began questioning his gender identity. He (originally a she) became depressed, suicidal, addicted to alcohol, drugs and was admitted to a mental institution. Once he accepted that his gender did not match his external genitalia he began gender reassignment and his mental state improved. He is now happily married to a heterosexual woman and is a productive citizen. He is using men's locker rooms and bathrooms. He was, and always will be a guy and no one will know the difference.

No one is trying to "usurp the rights of the majority." I believe people are trying to help society progress to accept variations in the population and to see that the world is not limited to just one type of person. There is a diversity of people in all shapes, sizes, colors, genders, orientations, religions, etc. We need to learn to accept these differences and find a place in our hearts, our lives and our communities for good people regardless of those differences.

Ann Speth
Bethel

IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE

To the Editor:

Because they've been in the shadows for years (and quite likely Mr. Castaldo has unknowingly shared a restroom with some of them) transgender people using restrooms has not been a problem except to THEM.

The issue is more complicated than he makes it, but I would urge Mr. Castaldo (rather than just deciding that he knows how to solve the problem) to study more in depth, and he will hopefully come to understand why Maine's Supreme Court ruled in favor of transgender rights and will almost certainly continue to do so. <http://www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/transgender/restroom-faq>

As to the "pervert" remark, I have yet to read one report on a transgender person molesting a child in a public restroom. I cannot say the same about Congressmen.

Chandler McGrew
Bethel

OVERPOPULATION

To the Editor:

This subject, brought up in Bob Dow's letter last week is one of those controversial subjects that I don't believe our Judeo-Christian culture is prepared to address. How do you convince people in a free society that they should limit the number of children they may have, and who is to decide what the proper number is?

The Chinese Communists limited families to a single child per couple over the past several decades, and that didn't work out very well. It succeeded in limiting population growth, but now they are encountering a situation where there are not enough younger generation people to properly care for the increasing number of old people. There are labor shortages, and an imbalance in the male/female ratio due to the Chinese culture which valued male over female children.

Perhaps we should consider a system like the indigenous people in a remote, inaccessible, except by air, valley high in the mountains of New Guinea up until the end of WWII. I recently read a book titled "Lost in Shangri-La," by Mitchell Zuckoff, a true story of the survival of several U.S. Army survivors of the crash of a C-47 aircraft in the central highlands of New Guinea in 1945. The survivors, all injured, found themselves in this jungle valley with no way of making their way hundreds of miles through trackless jungles and towering mountains unless and until the Army could find a way to extricate them by air. This valley was populated by aboriginal people, called "Dani." These people survived on animals they killed with bows and arrows and root vegetables, like taro. Theirs was a culture of war. As one native said, "If there is no war, we will die."

People of each village, like the Hatfields and McCoys, would fight with the people of nearby villages and kill a warrior of the other village. This resulted in a retaliatory killing of the warrior or a member of his family by the neighboring villagers.

This system apparently resulted in equilibrium, with the population of the natives never exceeding the ability of their environment to provide sustenance. Any takers?

Richard Grover
Mason

Greenwood

Continued from page 1

The wage increases are due primarily to an increase in ambulance calls by EMTs, Sparks said.

The budget for the G&W Transfer Station is proposed at \$62,000, up from last year's \$55,600.

Going down is the Highway Department budget, proposed at \$379,600, down from last year's \$385,600. Absent this year is \$21,000 for last year's truck purchase.

Also absent from the overall budget is the previous annual road bond payment of \$106,342. It has been paid off.

Proposals for reserve accounts include \$50,000 for the Highway Department (same as last year); \$59,000 for Capital Improvements (\$0 last year); \$0 for the Fire Department (\$50,000 last year); \$75,000 for Revaluation (\$0 last year) and \$25,000 for Building (same as last year).

The Capital Improvement Account proposal is to replenish that fund if the road and well improvements are approved, said Sparks.

With a county tax of \$127,773 (down

slightly from last year) and an estimated SAD 44 share of \$1,022,650 (down about \$7,000 from last year), the total proposed expense budget would be \$2,335,649, up about \$28,000 from last year.

The current mill rate is 12.5, Sparks said, and if all money articles are approved it is expected to hold steady at that number.

Two ordinance amendments are proposed. One would change the penalty for a violation of the Enhanced 911 Addressing Ordinance from the state statute maximum of \$2,500 to \$250.

The other addresses commercial wind power projects.

In town elections, Selectman Fred Henderson's term is up and he is expected to run again, Sparks said.

SAD 44 School Director Dick Melville is retiring, and the only confirmed candidate for the position so far is Gina Billings, Sparks said.

The Town Meeting starts at 9 a.m. at the Jackson Silver American Legion Hall on Gore Road.

Our Back Pages

By Danna Brown Nickerson

10 years ago: Several Skillings Road homes were threatened by a woods fire that burned an estimated 27 acres on both sides of the road.

About 40 people turned out in Gilead to help the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife with a float stocking of 1,700 brown trout in the Androscoggin River.

Deaths: Monique J. Pelletier, Robert W. Akers, Leonide Arsenault, Roger E. Moberg, Eva S. Maxson, Clyde F. Damone.

20 years ago: Repairs to the Kendall Brook Bridge in the Irish Neighborhood had been completed.

Rachel Stowell, Michelle McInnis, Kate Nickerson, Jessie Wight, Cory Koch, Sarah Seames, Martha Grover, Cora Gallagher, and Kelli Szenti were inducted into the Telstar Chapter of the National Honor Society.

Birth: Austin Keith Rye-

son. Deaths: Norma C. Heikinen, Mabel G. Walker.

30 years ago: The Telstar girls' track team had outstanding performances in their first two meets beating Hebron Academy 105 to 27, and Oxford Hills 77 to 57.

Karen Brown was elected chair of the Second District Convention at the Republican State Convention at Portland.

Births: Jason Robert Foote, Leora Ann Greenleaf.

Deaths: Guy L. Durrell, Patricia M. Bennett, Dale C. Thurston.

40 years ago: The SAD 44 Board named Kenneth Smith as the new superintendent of schools.

The U.S. Army's 10th Special Forces Group, "Green Berets," was involved in field training in the Bethel area.

The ice went out of Songo Pond on April 18.

Births: Amy Lynn Bennett, Adam Paul Croteau, Todd Thornton Davis.

Death: Mrs. Marion H. Day.

50 years ago: The Gould Academy Chapman Club presented an informal pops concert in Bingham Gymnasium. The Glee Club also performed.

Deaths: Dr. Stafford Caspell, Rudolph L. Belanger, Duane E. Cross, Mrs. Alta Cummings Meserve, Sidney A. Dyke, Ormond L. Andrews.

60 years ago: Blood was typed for 400 in the Bethel Health Council's successful program.

Bethel Lions Club appointed a committee to investigate the possibilities of an outdoor basketball court at Crescent Park School.

Deaths: Arthur F. Morrill, William C. Holt.

70 years ago: The location of a town dump was being seriously considered.

The ice left Howard's Pond on April 20.

Death: Mrs. Florence O. Kimball.

80 years ago: The log drive on the Cambridge River was going very slowly due to low water.

The Parent Teacher Association sponsored an "Amateur Hour" program at Odeon Hall. The part of "Major Bowes" was taken by Hugh Thurston.

90 years ago: The Silver Lake Hotel in Andover was burned. Nothing was saved from the 14-room building. Loss was estimated at \$12,000.

The tarvia on the road between Locke's Mills and Bethel, and Bethel and Newry Corner was broken up preparatory to applying a new coat of tarvia.

110 years ago: The ladies of the Methodist church gave a hulled corn supper Pattee's Hall. Tickets were 20 cents.

The ice went out of Songo Lake April 27.

Naturalist Charles Denison Kellogg presented a lecture and recital at Odeon Hall.

The Bethel Citizen

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Melville

Continued from page 1

by the parents of the graduates, but by nearly everyone in town.

"The Town Hall was always packed," Dick said.

After eighth grade, the town of Greenwood, which had never had a sufficient population to support a high school of its own, paid tuition for its students, allowing them to attend the high school of their choice. Most chose Woodstock High School, West Paris High School, or Gould Academy in Bethel.

A new high school

By the 1960s the smaller towns were finding it difficult to separately meet state educational requirements and the condition of the Woodstock High School building was deteriorating.

In addition, the leadership of Gould Academy, under pressure to define the school's identity, no longer felt it could serve as both a private academy and Bethel's public high school.

The towns of Greenwood, Woodstock, and Andover joined together with Bethel and Newry (which, along with Upton, had formed School Union #22 nearly three decades earlier) to address the future of public education in the area.

They formed a unified school board with representatives from each of the five towns and began to plan for a single high school that could serve all of the district's students.

Interestingly, according to Dick, Gould Academy was briefly considered as one option.

"Gould approached the new board and offered to give them the school free and clear" to use as a district high school, he said, but the board declined because of the steep operating costs of the aging and inefficient buildings.

"Then they offered it to the University of Maine at Farmington, but they declined it, too," he added.

Instead, the newly formed district opted to build a new high school, which opened

in 1968. It was named Telstar after the experimental satellites, Telstar 1 and 2, that were among the first to relay telephone and television signals, communicating with the Andover Earth Station.

Shortly after the school opened in 1968, Dick served as chairman of the School Board for two terms.

"I was on the road in industrial sales, and when I was the chair I would visit the Department of Education when I was in Augusta," he said. "At that time, you could just drop in and talk with the commissioner."

Addressing challenges

Both Dick and Beverly were unimpressed with some aspects of the original architectural design of Telstar, citing its flat roofs and large expanses of inefficient windows.

"The Bingham Foundation offered to pay a sizeable amount for the new high school if the district would use their architect," Dick said, adding, "That was a mistake."

When she taught there, Beverly said, "In the wintertime, the wind would blow right through. I brought plants from home to brighten my classroom, but it was too cold for them. There just wasn't enough forethought, or knowledge of the area, in the design."

Overall, however, Dick thinks the buildings and grounds and maintenance departments have done an excellent job of overcoming design challenges to improve the condition and efficiency of the Telstar complex.

He cited recent upgrades to insulation

and ventilation, comprehensive roof repairs, and the installation of a pellet boiler.

As for the district's teachers, he believes they have a much tougher job than in the past, with complex assessment systems that require extensive planning and documentation to ensure that the needs of all students are met.

"What the teachers have to go through nowadays is unreal. There are so many different things they have to do now besides teach," but they have risen to the challenge, he said.

"We have some excellent teachers in the district," Dick said, adding that to have so many teachers (currently more than a dozen) engaged in the pursuit of National Board Certification, a rigorous multi-year process, is "fantastic."

He said one of the biggest mistakes he saw the district make during his tenure

was its decision some years ago to eliminate the school music program in an effort to contain costs.

Music has always been important in the Melville household. Beverly, the longtime organist at the Locke Mills Union Church, also played the piano for many Telstar graduations over the years.

"I was very glad when they brought it back," Dick said. "We now have an excellent music program in both the elementary and high schools."

He said he approves of the new schedule the high school will implement for the



A. Wight Chapman

2016-17 school year and believes the administration is making positive changes that will improve education for all of the district's students.

Beverly pointed out that in addition to the success of the music program, the high school sports teams have enjoyed many successful seasons in recent years.

Together with new educational opportunities, those things all help to boost student engagement and school spirit, she said, adding, "I think the kids [at Telstar] have grown to take a great deal more pride in their school."

Time well spent

Dick grew up in Bethel and attended elementary school in South Bethel before his family moved to a home on Maine Street in Locke's Mills in the 1940s. He graduated from Gould Academy in 1948 and spent more than five years in the U.S. Navy, serving during the Korean War.

Beverly grew up in Locke's Mills, where she attended the village school on the Bird Hill Road. She and Dick began dating while she was still in high school and were married the same day she graduated from Gould Academy, as valedictorian, in 1953.

"My father told me, 'I don't care when you get married, as long as you graduate from high school,'" she said.

She put off college to raise their two children, but later, in 1975, received her bachelor's degree and became a teacher. She went on to complete her master's degree through a summer program at Middlebury College and taught at Telstar from 1978 until 1996.

"I loved it when I was there," Beverly said. "I missed it after I retired."

Dick said he regards his long tenure as a school director as time well spent, "very much so. I've enjoyed the School Board. I do get frustrated once in a while, but it has been very rewarding."

Notes from the Gilead Selectmen's meeting

April 13, 2016

The Board of Selectmen met at 6 p.m. at the Town Office on April 13. Officers present were: Two of the three Selectmen—Steve McLain, Alfred Leighton; Linsley Chapman Town Clerk/Treasurer/Registrar of Voters; Tax Collector/Admin. Asst., Judy Perrille. The third selectman, Jeremy Morin, was unable to attend.

Treasurer Warrants were reviewed. March Wrap-Up Warrant 3A: Vote: Moved and seconded to accept. Both selectmen voted in favor. April Warrant 4: Vote: One item removed. Moved and seconded to accept after removal. Both selectmen

voted in favor.

Discussion Regarding: Bills on warrant and the removal of one item on Warrant 4. Result: One item regarding insurance for the Road Commissioner was removed from the warrant until further documentation could be obtained as to whether or not it should be paid. Vote: Moved and seconded to remove item. Both selectmen voted in favor.

Discussion Regarding: Abatement. Result: The Selectmen reviewed a 2015 tax abatement that was approved by O'Donnell Associates. Vote: Moved and seconded to sign abatement. Both selectmen voted in favor.

Discussion Regarding: Appointments for 2016. Result: The Town Clerk presented the following names for review by the selectmen—Election Clerks (Luella Cole, Sharon Leighton, Stephen McLain) and Registrar (Linsley Chapman). Vote: Moved and seconded to sign appointments. Both selectmen voted in favor.

Discussion Regarding: Repair of windows in Town Hall. Result: The Administrative Assistant will make contact with a couple of local contractors to see if they are interested in doing the work and obtain an estimate. The windows will need to be rebuilt to retain their

original look.

Discussion Regarding: Hiring of a Cemetery/Buildings and Grounds employee. Result: The Administrative Assistant will place an ad in the April 21 edition of the Bethel Citizen. The selectmen will discuss applicants during office hours on April 26.

Discussion Regarding: General Assistance Request. Result: The request met the requirements for assistance. Vote: Moved and seconded to pay the minimum amount due to CMP. Both selectmen voted in favor.

Discussion Regarding: New computer and printer for the Town Clerk. Result: The current computer set-up that the Town Clerk has belongs to the State of Maine. It was part of a grant that supplied the computer set up to towns in Maine for maintaining the Central Voter Registration. The state will be recalling these computers since upgrades to the system will make it no longer usable. The Town Clerk will need a computer to work with the CVR. It is also used for issuing marriage licenses and copies of other vital records.

Vote: Moved and seconded to authorize the Town Clerk to purchase the necessary computer set up to be able to serve the residents. Both selectmen voted in favor.

Discussion Regarding: Question presented to the Board from the Treasurer. Result: The question was on overtime paid to the Road Commissioner during the winter. The topic was discussed but not resolved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Vote: Both selectmen voted in favor.

(Linsley Chapman, Town Clerk/Treasurer, is writer of these notes.)

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392-2051

TOWN OF BETHEL PUBLIC HEARING

The Bethel Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 9, 2016 at 7 PM at the town office to receive public input and discuss proposed amendments to three separate ordinances. These ordinances are entitled Administration, Signs, and Shoreland Zoning. These amendments are scheduled for presentation to voters at the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for June 15, 2016. For more information, please contact the Bethel Town Office at (207) 824-2669 or by email at info@bethelmaine.org.

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Budget

Continued from page 1

"The prudent approach would have been to find the fiscal discipline to reach that goal and apply it to all of its cost centers," he said.

He said the increase in the System Administration cost center was of particular concern.

"With the current public perception that this district simply spends too much money and that it is top-heavy vis-à-vis its student population, the nearly 12 percent increase in System Administration will only add fuel to that negative perception," Mil-

liard said.

He added that he would encourage other board members to join him in voting against the proposed budget "and return it for additional review in order to reach the committee's original goal of a five percent reduction."

Woodstock director Marcel Polak said he had never heard a rationale from the board for the concept of a five percent budget cut.

Because the Finance Committee was satisfied with the budget they brought to the full board,

Polak said, "I do not share the sentiment that we needed to automatically cut five percent."

Prior to the vote, Finance Committee member Larry Merlino of Greenwood said the objective of requesting a five percent cut in the budget was to see what such a reduced budget would look like, "if you eliminated things that we would feel are necessary, and if we did, we would put them back in."

"The objective of the five percent was not willy-nilly cuts; it was a guideline," he said.

Merlino said that with contract negotiations not yet done, "we had no idea what was going to happen with wages," which, along with benefits, make up 80 percent of the overall budget.

Superintendent David Murphy told the board that increases to the System Administration cost center are due primarily to three factors: a move toward funding a full-time business manager position, a change in the book-keeping/accounting position in the central office, and increased legal fees

resulting from the Newry withdrawal effort.

"The Finance Committee has been pretty persistent over the last three years about wanting to build in a full-time business manager position, and two years ago they started building toward that goal," he said.

Murphy said that for some time, he performed most of the duties of a business manager, "and for the past couple of years we have had [former district Business Manager Bruce] Powell come in for a day or two a week to help out with some of that."

The School Board also voted to approve the Finance Committee's recommended budget of \$164,394 for Adult and Community Education for the 2016-17 school year, which reflects an increase of approximately \$7,000 over the current fiscal year.

The Adult Education budget will also be discussed and voted on by district residents at the annual public budget meeting next month.

(Note: The writer is a substitute teacher in the SAD 44 Adult Education Department.)

Valentine

Continued from page 1

vation in central Oxford County and eastern Coos County, N.H., supporting a balance of growth and conservation and empha-

sizing sustainable and traditional land uses.

To date, the Land Trust has protected more than 7,700 acres of land by fee

acquisition, conservation easement and collaboration, according to the release.



The view toward the Androscoggin River from the Valentine home. Inset, the late Dick Valentine. A. Aloisio; Submitted photo

Added

Continued from page 1

School Board if they wished to add an article to the public budget meeting warrant for the expenditure of \$370,000 in capital improvements at CPS.

The proposed improvements consist of the installation of carbon monoxide sensors and a multiple pellet boiler system, designed to replace fuel oil consumption at the school with locally sourced wood pellets.

The Facilities Committee has been working with engineering consultant Richard Grondin of Integrated Energy Systems and recommended the improvements, although committee member Carol Everett of Bethel said she would be voting against going ahead with the proposed upgrades at this time.

"My thoughts were to wait and see how the [pellet] boiler at Telstar performs in another year, be-

cause this [winter] wasn't a very good test," she said.

Bethel director Roberta Taylor agreed, saying, "At this time, I don't think that I can support this, because I don't think the time is right. I think that there is a lot of uncertainty in the school district right now."

Facilities Committee Chair Tim Carter of Bethel said there were many reasons to support the project, including the age of the CPS oil boiler, the historic volatility and high cost of oil prices when compared to the relative price stability of wood products, the local availability of wood pellets, and an expected 80 percent reduction in carbon emissions.

Six School Board members voted to send the question to residents at the public budget meeting, with four opposed.

Following the board

vote, Murphy explained the options for paying for the three proposed capital improvement projects, which total \$576,000, should they be approved by district voters.

These include shifting approximately \$400,000 from the undesignated fund balance to the capital improvement account to fund the projects outright, leaving a balance of approximately \$300,000 in each account.

While that amount of reserve funds may be less than an auditor would recommend, he said, it complies with state standards for school districts. The board could also choose to fund the projects in full or in part through loans.

Four members of the School Board, including Finance Committee members Bonnie Largess of Newry and Amy Forbes DeVivo of Bethel, did not attend Monday's meeting.



The Way I See It

by Sharon Bouchard

From the TWISI archives: I saw some kids playing with marbles the other day. To me, that is proof positive that spring is really here. Later the same day I saw a couple of little girls with jump ropes. Further verification that we are on our way to pleasant days.

It gave me some comfort to see these kids and their toys, not just for the signs of spring that they represent to me, but, because I too played with marbles and jump ropes as a kid.

When I went Christmas and birthday shopping for my grandsons over the last four or five months, I found the toy department to be very disturbing to my knowledge or lack thereof of child's play.

I didn't even understand what most of the toys were, so I certainly didn't understand what you did with them. A very large amount of the toys looked so futuristic and violent. Others fell into the video or digital category and had sound effects that either gave me a headache or scared the heck out of me.

So, to see kids playing with something that I could relate to was very comforting.

I have very fond memories of shooting marbles into a small hole in the dirt and attempting to knock the other person's marble out of the way. I was never very good at it and most of the time I lost my marbles, but I still enjoyed playing.

My brothers and I would swap marbles and we all had our prize possessions. I favored the multi-colored "cats eyes" and my brothers preferred the "boulders." I'm sure that big marbles is a "boy thing."

My mother certainly was not as fond of the marbles as we kids were. They did have a tendency to end up on the floor and my mother did have a tendency to be the one to slip and fall,

on them. So, I can understand how she felt about marbles.

I may not have been all that great at marbles, but I sure was the little princess of jumping rope. I could jump all day and never get tired. I could jump forwards and backwards and I could do "Red, Hot Pepper" like nobody's business.

I was even pretty good at the double jump rope. This was a favorite on the playground during recess. A girl at each end spinning two ropes or one long enough to double up and everyone else would run in and do the jumping. There were all sorts of chants to say while you were jumping, but I don't remember any of them. I

I may not have been all that great at marbles, but I sure was the little princess of jumping rope.

do remember that when any of the boys would join in and could actually jump, I would fall in love with them.

A couple of years ago I got the bright idea that jumping rope would be a great way to exercise. It's a good way to burn a lot of calories, exercise the muscles and get the heart rate up. And, it is something that I really like to do.

That is all true in theory, but I can say from experience that overweight, out of shape middle-aged women should not jump rope. I did okay for about seven jumps then I got my foot tangled up and fell down. I twisted my

ankle and thought I was going to have a heart attack. The next day I could barely move my arms, I had a skinned knee and I couldn't walk. I learned a good lesson though, now the only thing I exercise is caution.

I have considered getting a bicycle and using that for exercise. I'm glad to see that bikes are still very popular with the kids. They may look a little sleeker or have more gears, but they're still basically the same. Recently I even saw a kid on a bike with playing cards on the spokes. Boy, did that bring back some good memories!

I used to have a big bike with balloon tires and the brakes connected to the pedals. That's still the type of bike I would like to have. I don't trust the ones with handle brakes. I rode my daughter's once and when I went to stop I pedaled backwards. Like crazy with no results. By the time I remembered the handle brakes I had to stop in a hurry. Stop I did! And right over the handle bars I went.

On second thought, a bike may not be a good idea after all. I could go fly a kite. Kites are still available and running to get one in the air has to be good exercise. They look so pretty flying high above everything. Now that I think about it, I never could get one to fly high above everything. If I got them in the air at all they either got hung up in the power lines or in a tree. So much for the kite idea.

I guess I'll just take comfort in knowing that some of the playthings of my childhood are still a source of enjoyment for the kids of today. The way I see it, those types of toys are a lot better form of entertainment than some of the violent ones I saw in the toy department. How about a game of marbles anyone?

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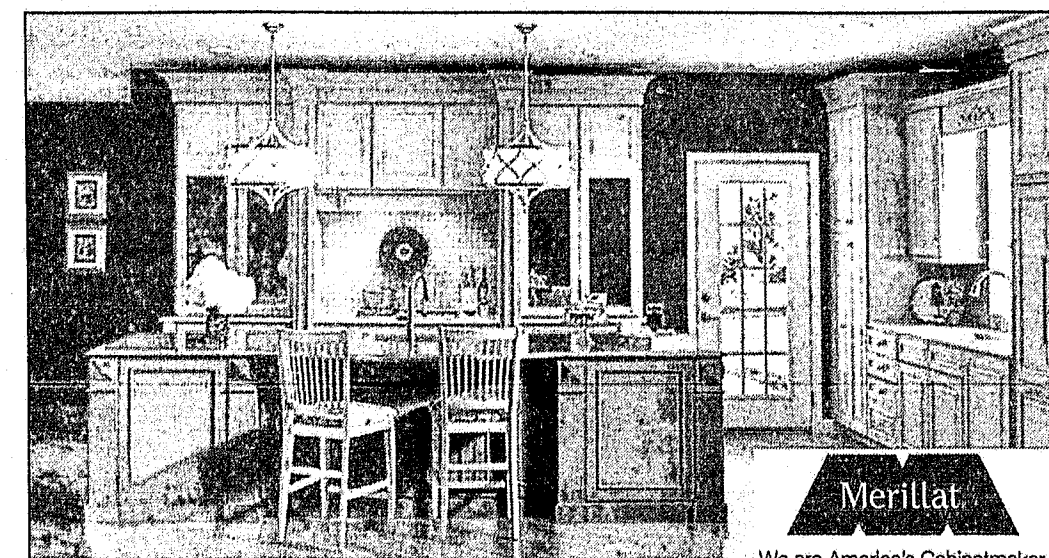
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County could face insolvency over jail costs

Closing the jail could leave a Bethel deputy driving an arrestee to Portland

By ALISON ALOISIO

Oxford County officials, concerned about the Legislature's failure to raise the tax cap limit for jail funding, are weighing options ranging from going to court over the issue to closing the jail.

The jail is a 72-hour holding facility. County inmates held longer are transferred to other jails, usually Cumberland County's, and Oxford County pays for them.

Three times this legislative session Oxford County officials sought legislation that would have allowed the county to raise its statutory jail tax cap to a maximum of \$2,050,000 (see sidebar for background), but were rebuffed each time.

The county is currently running a deficit of \$59,000/month because of increased jail costs, and the plan is to continue running the deficit through the remainder of 2016, County Administrator Scott Cole said last week.

The excess jail costs are currently being covered through funds received from the Oxford Casino, he said. No other counties in Maine receive casino funds.

Cole said using those funds could work "functionally" as a longer-term option, but "it would be considered 'ultra-vires' or

operating outside the law. The good news for Oxford County is that the casino money provides the option of going ultra-vires. However, county officials reject that option. We're sworn to uphold the law, not break it."

Without the ability to lawfully raise more money, he said, "Oxford County will go insolvent in the fall of 2017."

What to do?

The county could close the jail and send people arrested to the Cumberland County Jail in Portland. But that would not make the costs of housing inmates go away and other new costs would emerge, some borne by the county and some borne by municipalities, Cole said, and could put law enforcement officers in a difficult position.

As Cole wrote in a letter to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, "It is already at 33-mile one-way ride from Fryeburg or Rumford to the Oxford jail in South Paris. Substituting Portland for South Paris creates a much longer ride and exacerbates the decision dynamics of the police officer in the field. We believe that the degree of impact (created by local jail closure) on an individual officer's decision to arrest (or not) is unacceptable. Any benefits of overall cost savings are

exceeded by the negative consequence of leaving a community without adequate police coverage for extended periods."

County officials are also looking at going to court over the funding.

"This option is being reviewed," said Cole. "Current statute prohibits inter-county boarding fees if the state funds jails at a certain level and this dollar level, though insufficient, has been met. However, the law is contradictory and gives receiving jails (like Cumberland), a unilateral say ... our three failed attempts at changing the law may actually be useful testimony if the county seeks judicial relief - some sort of court order compelling the state Commissioner of Corrections to find space for our external inmates."

He said the average count of Oxford County external inmates is 40.

The current overall county tax commitment totals \$5,677,527, of which \$1,265,620 is dedicated to jail costs, according to Cole.

Had the Legislature passed the most recently proposed legislation, the county would have had the option of increasing the jail assessment by \$800,000 he said.

Cole told Bethel selectmen at a recent board meeting that would have

translated to an increase of approximately \$50,000 in Bethel's county tax. Bethel's current 2016 county share is \$352,482, he said.

Head's position

State Rep. Fran Head (R-Bethel) was asked her position on the bill to raise the tax cap (LD 1697).

Head said she joined 69 other representatives, including all seven from Oxford County, in opposition to an "ought not to pass" report, which fell short by 10 votes.

Head said the outcome was "disappointing," saying that "raising the cap is the only realistic option to keep our jail operational. The fiscal analysts came out with a figure of \$821,243 of increased revenue, which would then be used to keep our jails open with safe staffing levels. I supported this measure because we can't depend on the Legislature for sending us money every time we have a crisis—we can raise the funds right here at home, we just need permission."

The Legislature recently passed another bill, LD 1614, that would have provided a total \$2.4 million in additional state aid to jails (with approximately \$74,000 going to Oxford County), but Gov. Paul LePage vetoed it. The Legislature was scheduled to vote on it again Friday.

How Oxford County got in this position

County Administrator Scott Cole provided the following background information on the jail issue (see story at left):

In 2008 the county's tax for jail purposes was set by statute at a fixed amount. In the first seven years that amount has been \$1,228,757. It was given a statutory bump of 3 percent in 2016 to \$1,265,620. All counties were capped in similar manners.

In exchange, the county laid off (or lost by attrition) 10 of 24 jail employees and the Oxford jail was reduced to a 72-hour hold facility where all inmates being held beyond that time period are sent to other jails - typically the Cumberland County jail in Portland.

Back in 2008 the big picture, statewide legislative plan, was to cap the counties' property taxes for jails at a total of approximately \$62 million with the state kicking in another \$18 million with distribution to all counties

but more for larger jails receiving inmates from smaller jails like Oxford. The combined cost of operating all county jails in Maine is about \$80 million.

However, the state never met its \$18 million share and little by little over the years the larger (inmate receiving) counties have been going broke. In the meantime the system worked great for Oxford County taxpayers.

However, since last July Cumberland County began charging Oxford \$50/inmate/day and that annual figure comes in somewhere between \$600,000 and \$800,000. Given the downsized staff and small facility here, Oxford has little choice but to pay the bill as it would be impossible to handle the inmate load and stay in compliance with state standards for incarceration. The county holds a fair amount of money in casino reserve and that has been the financial cushion since last July.

From the OCSD Patrol Log

Tuesday, April 19

At 4:02 p.m. Deputy Josh Daley received a call regarding fraud on the East Bethel Road in Bethel. No leads at this time.

Wednesday, April 20

At 1:47 p.m. Deputy Derek MacDonald responded to Main Street in Bethel to assist the Fire Department with a report of smoke in a building.

At 4:18 p.m. Sgt. Tim Holland stopped a vehicle on the East Bethel Road in Bethel. The driver claimed not to have seen the cruiser after turning on to a woods road.

Thursday, April 21

At 4:18 p.m. Deputy Mike Fitzmorris stopped a vehicle on Vernon Street in Bethel. The driver was given a ticket for operating after suspension.

At 10:26 p.m. Deputy Mike Fitzmorris stopped a vehicle on Vernon Street in Bethel. After investigation, Justin Cafferly, 29, of Bethel was arrested and charged with OUI and violation of bail.

Saturday, April 23

At 9:46 a.m. Deputy Mike Fitzmorris observed a subject whom he knew to be suspended driving on the East Bethel Road in Bethel. A stop was unable to be conducted at the time. Erica Waltman, 26, of Bethel was later summonsed for operating after suspension.

At 12:10 p.m. Deputy Mike Fitzmorris received a complaint about a loud vehicle driving recklessly up and down the East Bethel Road in Bethel. The subject was told to watch his driving habits.

Sunday, April 24

At 10:40 a.m. Deputy Mike Fitzmorris observed a suspended driver on Main Street in Bethel. Mark W. Sanborn, 46, of Gilead was summonsed for operating after suspension.

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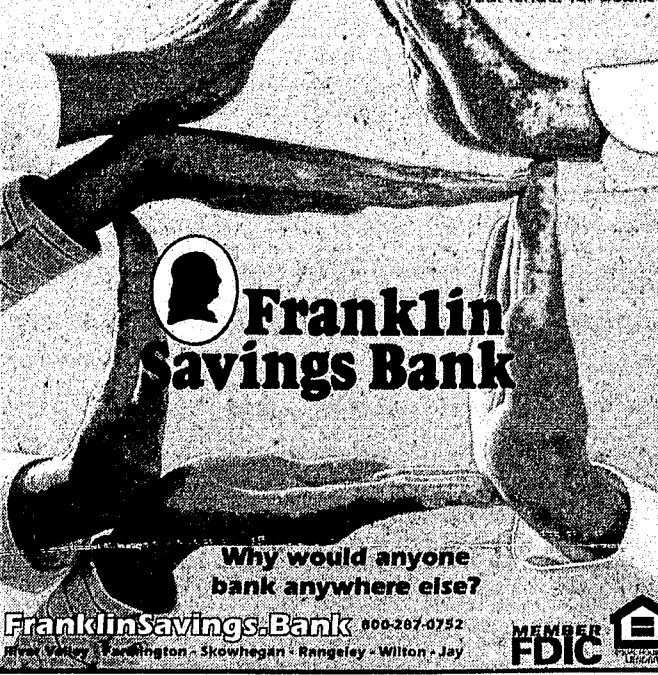
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Country Fresh Whole Boneless Pork Loin	\$1.97	Per Pound
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Briefly

Public hearing on Maggie's Park

GREENWOOD—Greenwood selectmen have scheduled a public hearing for May 3 at 5 p.m. to get input on possible future trailwork at the 63-acre Maggie's Nature Park. Town Manager Kim Sparks said that Blaine Mills, the primary volunteer who works on the park's trails, wants to hear from townspeople on whether they wish to see more trails built, as well as hear other general comments on the park. The hearing will precede the regular selectmen's meeting at the Town Office.

Bethel

By DON BENNETT



"Tis the log driving season

In the "good old days" locals would visit log driving camps set up along the Androscoggin River to sample the cook's skills. One favorite site was at Alder River—a forerunner for Davis Park.

May 1891: The rain Saturday and Monday gave a good driving pitch to the Androscoggin River. Mr. Allen, foreman of the Bearce and Wilson drives, pitched his tents near the mouth of the Alder River Monday night.

1894 May: Bearce and Wilson's drive had their headquarters at the toll bridge (Bethel's covered bridge over Androscoggin where bridge repairs are in progress 2016) on Friday night. Forty-two men were employed by the company including a cook and assistant. Only five boats are required to transport the whole crew.

Read more: <http://www.thebetheljournal.info/logdrives.htm>

Patriots Day came and went this year

In 1980 Bethel put on a grand celebration and the Citizen reported it as: Last Saturday "Great Day for Patriots" (April 24, 1980, the Bethel Citizen)

Patriot's Day in Bethel drew sunshine, enthusiasm and an appreciative crowd that lined Main Street to view a rousing parade and then swarmed into the Common to hear Eric Wight in the uniform of a Continental Army Captain, read greetings from the Sudbury (Massachusetts) Ancient Fife

and Drum Company to the people of Bethel.

Then, Richard Brooks, representing the Town of Sudbury extended greetings and best wishes on the occasion where Bethel's earliest organizational efforts formed in 1767. He also presented to the townspeople a collection of books and reports which included a book listing Sudbury's first settlers who came from England.

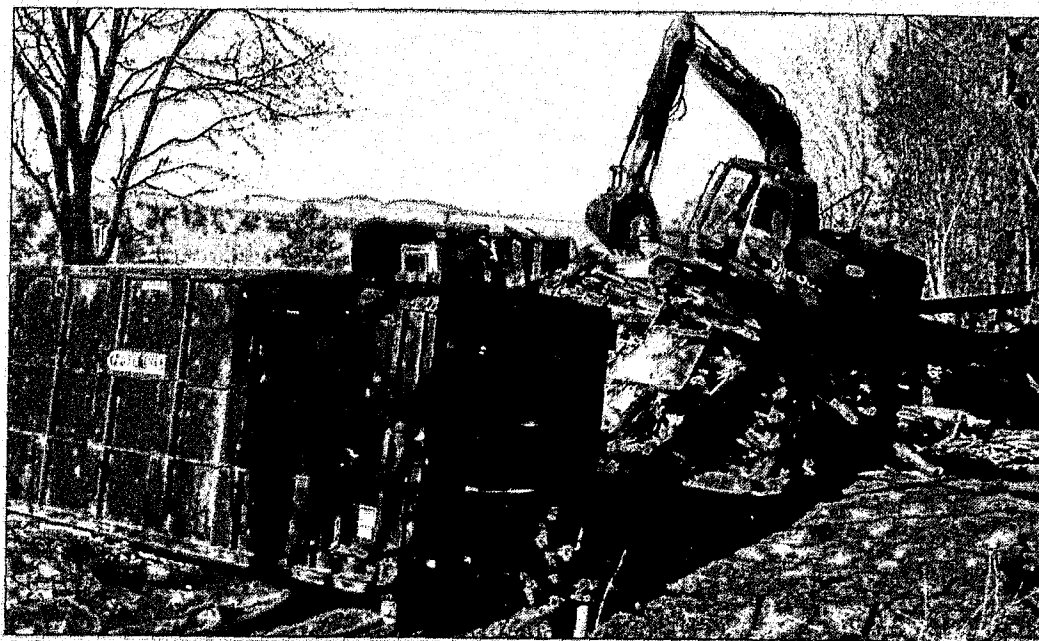
The afternoon parade consisted of nine units from Farmington, Oxford County and Coos County, New Hampshire, as well as from Bethel and Gould Academy.

Read more: <http://www.thebetheljournal.info/patriotsday1980.htm>

Days of letter press ads for the Citizen

In the 1960s when the Citizen rolled off a letterpress printer, "artistic" advertisements had to be prepared on blocks with raised lettering and illustrations. Riverside Farms had four such advertising blocks made for us by the Citizen where they were to be used for weekly ads. These blocks were then fitted into the frame of each newspaper page where they were to appear. In the late 1970s one day while I was at the Citizen office talking with Don Brown about another project, John came out with four blocks and gave them to me. This was over 10 years after Riverside Farms business had closed. The ad layouts started out as cut and paste layouts using paper milk cartons.

Bethel by rail—1955
In January 1955 I left Fort Dix, N.J., for a short leave at home. I took a bus to Grand Central Station, N.Y.C., and asked for a train ticket to Bethel. The



GREENLEAF HOUSE GONE, BUT A NEW ONE WILL RISE IN ITS IMAGE—Tony Andrews and Cheri Thurston recently purchased the house and property on Bethel's Sunset Road owned for years by John and Arlene Greenleaf. Tony said they had hoped to renovate and preserve the 1940s house, but after doing estimates concluded the cost would be prohibitive. So instead, he and Cheri have designed a new one that will look very similar, though slightly larger. They hope to move in in late summer. Here, Andre Bernier of Andre's Construction Inc. takes down the old structure with an excavator on Monday, revealing the view toward Bethel in the background.

A. Aloisio

Bethel

By NANCY BROWN



The warm weather has brought early spring flowers: violets, dandelions,

vinca, bluets, daffodils, and crocuses. It has also brought ticks. As soon as the weather warms up ticks are out: in the woods, backyards, and on the lawns. On Sunday I waded through a patch of vinca to take photographs of daffodils that my mother planted in 1961. By the time I got home, the ticks had crawled up my pant legs, over my torso, and were in my hair. These were the big, ugly brown dog ticks. But deer ticks, which carry Lyme disease, are out there, too. Make sure your pets have flea

and tick medication and that you check your body for ticks after you go outdoors.

The Lyrid meteor shower, which peaked on April 22, was a bust here in Maine. Meteor watchers knew viewing would be difficult because of the full moon. However, even in the moonlight it is sometimes possible to see the brightest meteors. So, several hours before dawn on April 22, my dog Bailey and I went into the backyard to watch. Heavy cloud cover prevented any meteor viewing. We have another chance next week. The Eta Aquarids will peak in the predawn hours on May 5 and 6. These meteors give a better show in the southern hemisphere but they can be seen all over the world. This year there will be a new moon, so if there is no cloud cover, we will have dark skies for good viewing. About half of the Eta Aquarid meteors leave persistent trains, ionized gas trails, which glow for several seconds after the meteor has disappeared. The source of the Eta Aquarids is Halley's Comet. Even though the comet itself can only be seen every seventy-five years, every April the Earth passes through the orbital path of Halley's Comet and bits of dust and debris appear as meteors as they hit the Earth's atmosphere. Interestingly, the Earth goes through the orbital path of Halley's Comet again in October creating the Orionid meteor shower.

The Bethel Library annual plant sale is only a

month away. The sale is held every year the first Saturday after Memorial Day. This year it is June 4, from 9 to 10 am on the lawn beside the library at 5 Broad Street. This sale has a reputation as one of the best places to buy perennials, which are donated by local gardeners. Past items have included iris and lily bulbs, lilacs, blackberry bushes, ground covers, hosta, and herbs. Sometimes there are other plants. Last year there were tomato and pepper plants, Christmas cactuses, and jade plants. So, mark the date on your calendar. Come early. The plants are always gone within 45 minutes.

If you have news to share, please e-mail me at brown-nancy1950@gmail.com.

East Bethel

By WALLY RITZ



It will be interesting to see how much, if any, of the "poor man's fertilizer" we

will end up with tomorrow, Tuesday the 26. Germany, too, is experiencing another blast of Winter. The weather pattern sure seems to continue in an unusual way.

Arlene Harrington has a visitor right now. Her granddaughter Karen is there for a few days. If you happen to run into Arlene on Tuesday, May 3, make sure to wish her a Happy 39th Birthday. Happy Birthday from the whole neighborhood, Arlene. You are an amazing lady.

Here's another heads up for a sure sign of spring. The Shadagee Ramblers will be performing again at a benefit/dance at the Legion and the Greenwood Fire Department will start having their fish fries. I will keep you posted with the details.

Do feel free to call me at 507-1008 or e-mail heinerichcracker@gmail.com with your news, questions and community events.

Here is the answer to the latest Trivia question: In 1916 the East Bethel baseball team played one game and won. Can someone tell me why they only played one game? Am curious to know.

Have a great week.



Advertisement moldings for letter press printing made for Riverside Farm in the 1960s (see Bethel column).

D. Bennett



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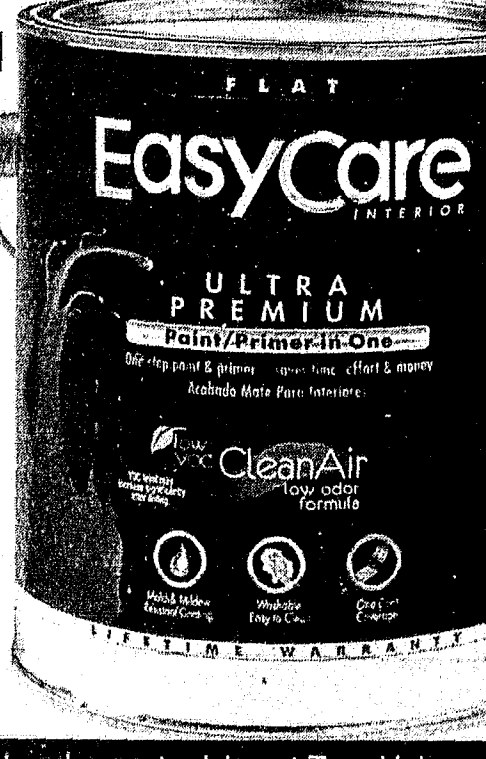
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PUBLIC HEARING

The Bethel Board of selectmen will conduct a public hearing on Monday, May 9, 2016 at 7 PM at the Bethel Town Office, 19 Main Street, Bethel, Maine for the purpose of receiving oral and written comments on a proposed rate change in Sewer Billing.

Written comment prior to the hearing may be provided to the Town of Bethel, PO Box 1660, Bethel, Maine 04217 or to info@bethelmaine.org.

For more information call 207-824-2669

A P R

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2016



CLEANUP DAY IN WOODSTOCK AND GREENWOOD-In honor of Earth Day (April 22) Woodstock held its annual Clean Up Day Saturday, and neighboring Greenwood did the same for the first time. Above left, four boys decided to do something good for their town and school after a birthday slumber party. From left Hunter Winslow, Wylie Williamson, Noah Kissel, and Grady Kellogg show some

of the trash they picked up around the Woodstock Elementary School and the Woodstock nature trail. Greenwood volunteers picked up trash along the Gore Road, Johnny's Bridge Road, Route 26, and the Greenwood Road. Above right, Suzanne Dunham is shown with a bag she collected. Bethel's Clean Up Day is May 7. Jane Chandler (left); Amy Wight Chapman

West Bethel

By KAREN PAUL



All God's creatures have a place in the choir so why are they dancing in my kitchen?

When exiting the shower recently, I hurriedly draped my wet body in a burgundy towel and dashed toward a whining Willow. Securing my wrap, I approached the back door to let her in. She immediately plopped her arthritic self down causing me to falter and nearly wiping me out. Recovering from my near fall, I pranced by the chimney thinking I should dry off near the Jotul.

Something stirred in my peripheral vision as I got close to the concrete smokestack. I hesitated in the narrow passageway turning my face alongside the activity. Shocked at the spectacle and terrified for my exposed hide, I let out a deafening shriek. A double delirium of flying squirrels slid round the corners like racecars at Oxford Plains. The two bug eyed fur balls hesitated when I screamed

and Gerry appeared to see what all the commotion was about. Suddenly Gerry and I noticed why the two squirrels were in such a hurry. Circling around the chimney behind them was a tiny white mammal with a black tipped tail. I grabbed a broom from the kitchen closet and headed toward the weasel that was now near the floor. Yelling at Gerry to open the back door together we rid ourselves of the little white creature.

Now to get those pesky squirrels out of my house, but where were they? Gerry found one dead at the base of the chimney and threw it out the back door and by the time he returned to the kitchen the weasel had found its way back in and was looking for the dead squirrel. After the excitement died down and we had extricated the weasel for the second time, we found the remaining squirrel at the base of the chimney dead. We concluded the weasel had in just a few blinks killed both squirrels. As the song goes... "All God's creatures have a place in the choir some sing low some sing higher, some sing out loud on the

telephone wire and some just clap their hands and paws and anything they got now."

Locke's Mills

By AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN



Thanks to everyone who helped out with Greenwood's first Clean-Up/Green-Up Day last weekend! In celebration of Earth Day, and inspired by similar annual efforts in Woodstock and Bethel, four of us met at the Town Office on Saturday morning to head out with gloves and trash bags.

We filled quite a few bags while cleaning up along sections of the Gore Road, Main Street, and the Greenwood Road. In addition, several others joined in the effort along the roads near their own homes. I'll probably miss someone, but thanks definitely go out to Kim Sparks, Betsey Foster, Suzanne Dunham, Charlie and Cathy Newell, and Arnie Jordan for their efforts.

Earlier this spring, right

after the snow banks melted, I noticed quite a bit of trash along the first couple of miles of the Greenwood Road on my walks (and never seemed to remember to bring a trash bag to collect it), but more recently the roadsides there have looked nice and clean. Someone else who walks that way has obviously been picking up trash on a regular basis. Thank you, whoever you are!

Now I'm going to hop up on my soapbox to say that I can't imagine what possesses anyone to think it's okay to toss trash out their car window. The most common item we picked

up seemed to be Dunkin Donuts coffee cups and lids, along with an assortment of snack food wrappers. How difficult can it be to keep your trash in the car with you until you get home? It's especially irritating when litter is tossed out in places where the road runs close to the water. Much of what we picked up on the Gore Road had to be fished out of the edge of the pond.

The Greenwood/Woodstock Transfer Station committee met last week. Fred Henderson brought photos of the very organized swap shop at the Buckfield transfer station. The committee would like

to see a tidy and well-run swap shop at our own transfer station, and we are still looking for volunteers to take the project on. Kim heard from a couple of people who were interested in helping out when we first brought it up last fall, but they have since taken on other commitments, so we still need a good swap shop team.

It seems to be kind of a chicken-and-egg dilemma: which comes first, an organized space, or volunteers to run it? No one likes to take on what looks like an overwhelming project, but we're hoping that maybe if we can get things set up right to begin with, vol-

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unteers will emerge. We discussed cleaning out the former office building and repurposing it as the swap shop, with the hope that it can be made into an organized and welcoming space that will attract volunteers. Even if you don't have time to volunteer on an ongoing basis, a one-time offer to help with this initial project will be very much appreciated. Just leave your name and contact information at the Town Office.

There's no shortage of volunteer opportunities here in town. Blaine Mills is interested in finding out if people would like to see more trails created in Maggie's Nature Park, and, if so, if there are people who would like to help plan, create, and maintain them. It would be great to find some volunteers who like spending time outdoors and helping to provide outdoor recreation opportunities for others. Call or stop by the Town Office or get in touch with Blaine directly if you'd like to help out.

Don't forget that next week is the Greenwood Historical Society's first meeting of 2016, where Dean Bennett will discuss his most recent book, *Ghost Buck: The Legacy of One Man's Family and Its Hunting Traditions*. Dean's program will draw from his own family's history of hunting, which extends back to the 1800s, and will remind us all of the importance of activities that bring families together. The meeting will be held at the Greenwood Town Hall on Main Street at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 4. Please join us! E-mail your news to amy.w.chapman@gmail.com, leave a message at 875-5511, or contact me on Facebook.

Upton

By JOE BERNIER



The warm weather seems a bit early. Friday, some mosquitoes found me and Sunday, a tick. Hard

Town of Greenwood Board of Selectmen

Notice of Public Hearing Discussion on Maggie's Nature Park

Located at 289 Greenwood Road Tuesday, May 3rd 5:00pm, Greenwood Town Office 593 Gore Road, Greenwood

to believe that those pests are out in April in Upton. In past years, I have put a lot of miles on my snowmobile during and after April school vacation. Maybe next year I will get more help snow-dancing.

The mud is mostly gone from Back Street and even my driveway. However, the ground is still quite soft at the edges of the fields and in the woods.

The Upton Planning Board will meet Friday, April 29, 7 p.m. at the Town Office.

Please call 533-2010 or e-mail backstjoe@gmail.com with your local news.

Gilead

By LIN CHAPMAN



The last column of April! We need some April showers so we can start looking for those May flowers!

My brother, Steve McLain, had a visit from Tink Conkright this past weekend. Tink dropped off an antique adding machine that he thought might fit into the Gilead Historical Society's railroad station.

Steve and Lise McLain went to Gorham, N.H. this past weekend. They stopped at J's Corner Restaurant for lunch.

We have finally seen a female cardinal this past week. Mr. Cardinal has been happily singing from on top of the pine tree in our front yard.

Our Gorham, N.H. grandchildren, Sidney Chapman and Ajay Landry, were on school vacation this past week. The Saco grandchildren, William Chapman and Annie Chapman, were on vacation, too. Sidney and Ajay headed for Saco to spend a few days of their vacation with William and Annie. They had a great time going to the beach, the mall and Ajay got to play on the basketball team that William plays on, that is sponsored by TKG Athletics.

The first highlight of Grampa's 70th birthday last Friday was when the four grandchildren got on Facebook and wished him a Happy Birthday. Annie played the song on her flute and William, Ajay and Sidney sang. They also included Aunt Kym

Chapman, since she has the same birthday date as Grampa.

Grampa got phone call wishes from Chris and Kym Chapman, Tim and Michele Chapman, Ben Chapman, Leo and Ann Croteau, and his brother, Bill Lord, in Phoenix, Ariz. Bob and Judy Bishop sent a card and Steve McLain offered wishes when he stopped at the house on Saturday. The second highlight of the day was when Elena Martin's package arrived. It was a picture of our grandson, Ben Chapman, in his white USCG dress uniform. Great picture! We are so proud of him and his accomplishments. His graduation from the US Coast Guard Academy will be on May 18. After a short break, he will be stationed in Florida.

Gilead Historical Society

Last Saturday, a small bus pulled up in front of the Gilead Historical Society's buildings. Hugh went out to see if they would like to get into the buildings. The GHS will not be open on Saturdays until May, but when Hugh notices someone over there he will go over and open up. The bus was from Gould Academy and the driver, Dirk MacKnight, had a group of students looking for photo opportunities.

Later in the day, Hugh was cleaning up in the schoolhouse and had a couple of people stop to look at the buildings. We have also seen quite a few people stop on the road and take photos.

There will be a planning meeting on Saturday, May 7 at 1 p.m. at the Town Office. Plans for the annual event, to be held on Saturday, June 25, will be finalized. We plan on being out on the corner with The Cold Bottle Water Project on Saturdays starting on May 14.

Got any news? Call 836-2987 or e-mail chapmal@hotmail.com.

Andover

By JANE RICH



The Transfer Station Attendants would like to remind people to bring the TVs and PC monitors they wish to dispose of to the station over the next three weeks. The firm that picks them up will be coming soon. Use your punch pass which was enclosed in your tax bill or get one at the Town Office. Just a reminder, the punch pass entitles you to dispose of one refrigerator, freezer or air conditioner, one television or computer monitor, or eight tires per household. If you're planning to drop off shingles there is a voucher for that obtainable at the Town Office. For complete information see the Punch Pass.

Plans are moving forward for the Fiddlehead Festival to be held on May 7 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. The day will begin with a Pancake Breakfast at Mills Market and include a parade at 10 a.m., vendors in and around Main Street, a Fiddlehead cleaning demonstration and lawn tractor racing at 2 p.m. In addition the Historical Society Building will be open. The day will be concluded with music on the Bandstand from 4 to 6 p.m. We are all hoping for a warm, sunny day, but bring your jacket and be prepared for anything in the form of weather as, after all, it's Andover. Vendors can contact Kim Peare for further information 392-1197.

The annual and traditional Birthday Supper will take place at the First Congregational Church dining room on Saturday, April 30. This event has been going on since the 1930s and was first held in the Town Hall before the CEB addition went on to the church. Each table is decorated for a month of the year and it's interesting to see what ideas

come up. My personal favorite is the year Shirley York and I did spring in Andover. The decorations featured little trash cans and the individual cakes were made to look like little skunks. No skunks this year, at least not from us. We've been doing a table for at least 30 years. There will be two sittings with the first at 5 p.m. The menu is meat loaf, mashed potatoes, salads and veggies with birthday cake for dessert. Diners usually try to figure out where Betsey White's carrot cake is; however I know there will be a peanut butter cake with chocolate frosting. See if you can find either. Price is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.

The Selectmen are currently working on assessing issues including reviewing the updated tax maps. Transfers of property from April 2015 through March 31, 2016 are nearly completed. It is hoped that we will be able to commit taxes as soon as the school budget is approved, thus allowing citizens more time to pay taxes. The board was commissioned at Town Meeting to establish a committee to look at the structure of our Town government and is currently looking for people willing to serve on such a committee. Please contact the Town Office or see one of the Selectmen or come to a Tuesday night meeting. We should be getting to work on this in the very near future so any necessary public hearings could happen before Town Meeting 2017. Planning ahead and complete planning is very important if we are to get the town into a better financial and service to the people situation.

Mason

By RICHARD GROVER



Mona and I went to the Maine Republican convention last week, mostly out of curiosity about how the process works, since neither of us had ever attended a political convention before. The first day, Friday, I was impressed by how well managed the proceedings were; everything went as planned and right on time. Saturday, it got messy. At noontime, we were about two hours behind schedule, and it never got better. By 4:30 p.m., we were tired, and still the proceedings were about two hours behind, so we decided to head for home, feeling guilty about

missing Governor LePage's address, which we really did want to hear.

Throughout the convention, it was evident that Ted Cruz supporters were out in force, heavily outnumbering Trump and Kasich people. I chose to fight back by buying a "Trump - LePage" T-shirt, which I wore on the floor during Saturday afternoon sessions. Although I don't like some of the things Trump has said during his campaign, I find him less offensive than the other choices, and much more appealing than the options on the Democrat side of the aisle.

The thing that delayed proceedings most on Saturday was the election of At-Large delegates and Alternate delegates to the national convention. There were almost 200 candidates to become delegates to the National Convention in July. It took four pages just to list the candidates, from which we were to vote for 14. This slowed down the process and left many of us disappointed with how unwieldy it was, with balloting for Delegates At-Large held separately from the selection of alternates, a very time consuming effort.

On the brighter side, I met several charming people and enjoyed swapping stories and getting acquainted. There was one fellow with grey hair, a long, scraggly grey beard and a prosthetic left leg, who was particularly engaging. He claimed diabetes had caused him to lose his leg (it had started after a cow had stepped on his little toe) and he maintained that he wouldn't take any welfare from anybody! My "Vietnam Veteran" baseball cap prompted several conversations with other veterans who had been there with various experiences.

Looking back, I am still more than a little confused about the election of all these delegates for different job titles and what relationship they have to the people we voted for in the caucuses we attended a month or so ago! I am not even sure which of the people I voted for leaned toward Trump or Cruz!

Bryant Pond

By ALICE HOYT



Franklin Grange 124 met for a regular meeting at the hall on Monday, April 18. The next meeting is May 16. The Woodstock-Greenwood Senior Citizens will

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Duke loves to be around children. His ideal situation is to join a home where he can be one of the kids.

Anyone interested in adopting a pet from RPC can visit the shelter at 9 Swallow Road in South Paris Tuesday-Sunday 12-4 p.m. Most of the adoptable pets and the adoption application can be found online on the shelter's website at www.rpc.petfinder.com.

For answers to questions about adopting or fostering a pet, or to make an inquiry about a lost animal, call Responsible Pet Care after noon at 743-8679.

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meet on Thursday, May 5 at the Locke's Mills Church for a meeting and dinner will be put on by the Ladies' Circle.

There will be a story hour at the Whitman Memorial Library for Kindergarten through Grade 2 on Tuesday, May 3 at 1 p.m. On Tuesday, May 17, Farmer Minor and his pig will hold a "Pig Out on Reading" program for Kindergartners at 1 p.m. Parents with preschoolers may also attend if they want to.

The Whitman Memorial Library program for adults will be held on Thursday, May 19 at 2 p.m. Guest speaker will be Finn Melanson, who will be presenting a program on "Rank Choice Voting."

The public is welcome to attend at no charge. Light refreshments will be served.

Services at the Baptist Church are Sunday School at 9:15, Morning Worship at 10:30, Evening Service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening at 6:30 is Mid-Week Service and Bloom for girls 13 to 18.

Sunday, May 1 will be Fellowship Sunday with guest preacher Larry Strout.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Stanley Doughty.

Franklin Grange 124 will hold a Mock Hee-Haw Show on Saturday, May 7 at the Grange Hall at 7 p.m. in benefit of the Grange. Come enjoy the music. Refreshments on sale.

Meals on Wheels benefit May 22

The Shadagee Ramblers, a local community band, will hold a benefit for the Meals on Wheels Nutrition Program of SeniorsPlus, the designated Agency on Aging for Western Maine. Featuring live music, the event is suitable for all ages. The benefit will be held at the American Legion Hall, 595 Gore Road, Locke's Mills on Sunday, May 22, from 2 to 5 p.m. \$10 per person at the door.

(Free for children under 12.)

In addition to live music, the event will feature a 50/50 raffle, raffle items, pie auction, refreshments, snacks and lots of good old fashioned fun!

All proceeds will support Meals on Wheels, providing nutritious meals to older adults who are homebound and cannot cook for themselves.

Telstar grad Cintron volunteers with FEMA

Michael Cintron of Andover recently began a 10-month term of national service in FEMA Corps, an AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) program. FEMA Corps provides a boost to the nation's ability to assist disaster survivors while expanding career opportunities for young people ages 18 to 24. Based out of the Pacific Region campus in Sacramento, Cintron began his first project March 17.

During his 10-month term of service, Cintron, 19 will assist citizens and communities that have been impacted by disasters, as well as provide administrative and logistical support to the nation's emergency management system. Since the program launched in Fall 2012, FEMA Corps has assisted with a variety of declared disasters, including Hurricane Sandy, 2013's historic flooding in Colorado, severe storms in Minnesota, tornadoes in Oklahoma, the fertilizer plant explosion in West Texas, fires in California, among many others.

Serving on teams of 10 to 12 people, FEMA Corps members both travel to disaster-affected communities and support longer-term recovery operations across the country. Projects range from helping disaster survivors apply for FEMA assistance to mapping of disaster-stricken areas to sharing disaster preparedness and mitigation information with the public.

Cintron arrived at the AmeriCorps NCCC Pacific Region campus in Sacramento on Feb. 11 and completed three and a half weeks of specialized training in teamwork, leadership development, communication, service learning, and disaster survivor assistance. Cintron will serve on several projects in various locations throughout the United States depending on where a disaster strikes.

Prior to joining FEMA Corps, Cintron graduated from Telstar Regional High School in 2015. Michael said, "I chose a term of national service because helping those in need is the greatest joy in my life."

The AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) and its FEMA Corps units engage 2,800 young Americans in a full-time, 10-month commitment to service each year. AmeriCorps NCCC members address critical needs related to natural and other disasters, infrastructure improvement, environmental stewardship and conservation, and urban and rural development. FEMA Corps members are solely dedicated to disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery work. The programs are administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). CNCS is the federal agency that engages more than five million Americans in service through its AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, Social Innovation Fund, and Volunteer Generation Fund programs, and leads President's national call to service initiative, United We Serve. For more information, visit NationalService.gov.

Age-Friendly Community news

Transportation Surveys due on May 15 - available in the Bethel Family Health Center and the Bethel and Woodstock Town Offices and Libraries. FMI: Allen Cressy (ajcressy@megalink.net, 824-0508).

The Western Hills Access Television network, as reported last week, has a new governing board that is committed to the goal of providing internet broadcasting to the citizens of towns in this franchise area. Toward that end, they began internet streaming three months ago and are anticipating upgrading the hardware and software necessary for a system that can meet the needs of the future. They are asking for financial support from the member towns of Bethel, Newry, Greenwood and Woodstock. Note that these funds would not come from property taxes. Newry has already voted to support the program at a 100% level, and it is hoped that the other three towns will follow suit.

Save the Date: The Age-Friendly Community Planning Team has been working hard since last summer, and now we are ready to celebrate the progress we've made. We hope you'll join us and hear about our plans for the future: Thursday, May 19, 5 p.m. at the Alliance Church in Bethel. FMI about any of the above: Nancy Davis (nancydavis.bethel@gmail.com, 381-1110).

West Paris Universalist Church May services

May, beautiful May... "more than any other month of the year, wants us to feel most alive."

Fennel Hudson. Join us for Sunday worship services at 9 a.m., and enjoy the sun shining in our beautiful stained glass windows. All are welcome. Services are provided by The Reverend Fayre Stephenson, guest speakers, and the Worship Service Committee.

May 1, Music Sunday! Led by our music director, Jim Burke, and the Worship Service Committee, the service will revolve around the theme of "Amazing Grace", making use of some new songs as well as many old favorites. We'd love to have you drop by to add your voice to the celebration!

May 8, Blessed Are the Mothers led by The Reverend Fayre Stephenson. In some people's eyes, Mother's Day has become a "Madison Avenue" holiday. If truth be told, Mother's Day has taken on a few tiresome commercial qualities. This is a shame because Mother's Day celebrations go back to the Middle Ages. Join us and learn more about the wonderful day we designate to honor our mothers.

May 15, A Common Discourse on Miracles, Ordinary and Undefined led by guest speaker Sean Neil Barron, who will soon be ordained a minister. What is a miracle? Why do so many of the world religions tell stories of mystical even magical encounters? Unitarian Uni-

versalists don't often dwell on the questions of miracles, but should we? Come and together we will explore the question, not: Do you believe in miracles? but should you believe in miracles?

May 22, Saved by Grace is led by The Reverend Fayre Stephenson. What is your theology of the spirit? Is there a place for the concept of "grace?" Join us on this Sunday when we will explore a theology of grace from a Unitarian Universalist perspective.

May 29, Serenity is not freedom from the storm, but peace within it. We live in a culture accustomed to looking for solutions and comfort outside ourselves. "Out there" is becoming more and more challenging to navigate....it seems inconceivable that the source of solace simply lies within. As the Hopi elder say "we are the ones we have been waiting for". The Reverend Sarah Shepley will explore the topic of discovering our essential value as a means to finding shelter within the storm. Compared to a ballast, connection to our value is something that can give us stability during the 'squalls' of life.

For more information about the church and services, please contact Marta Clements, 674-2143, mcclements96894@roadrunner.com, or Bob Clifford at 674-3442, bobarlen@megalink.net.

To learn more about Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, please visit <http://www.uua.org/>.

Maine Adaptive Sports summer registration open

Maine Adaptive Sports & Recreation, the State's largest provider of free adaptive year-round recreational and sport opportunities announces that registration is open for its summer programs on its website, www.maineadaptive.org. Although there is no deadline for registration, spaces are limited and lessons are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, contact info@maineadaptive.org.

This summer, Maine Adaptive will offer hiking, paddling, tennis, golf, cycling, and fishing from the coast to the western mountains. Advanced adaptive athletes may participate in ocean and river trips as well as advanced cycle rides. All lessons are taught by trained staff and volunteers, and all sports and safety equipment is provided to participants. Information on volunteering is also available on the website.

Maine Adaptive also encourages advanced adaptive athletes to join Team Maine Adaptive and support our summer fundraising efforts by taking part in competitive rides, paddles, fishing tournaments, and road races with other organizations. Events take place throughout the summer.

From Aug. 19-22, 2016, disabled veterans and active duty service members and their families are eligible for our Veterans No Boundaries camp, held at camp Wavus in Jefferson, VNB, now in its 12th season, is unique among recreational programs for disabled members of the armed forces in that it focuses on family healing and support.

This year, on Sept. 17 and 18, Maine Adaptive staff and participants will visit Acadia National Park for a multi-sport weekend of programs. Visit us at the Eagle Lake parking area for an adaptive cycling equipment demonstration as part of the Maine Outdoor Coalition's Great Maine Outdoor Weekend and to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Acadia National Park.

Established in 1982 as Maine Handicapped Skiing, Maine Adaptive proudly serves nearly 500 individuals each year. Maine Adaptive is a chapter of Disabled Sports USA (DSUSA), a national network of adaptive recreation programs for people with disabilities. Maine Adaptive is also a US Paralympic sport club, which supports our introductory programs as well as providing additional opportunities for development and advancement for higher level athletes who participate and volunteer in our programs.

News from Telstar Middle School

Eighth grader Katherine Haley from the Peer Ambassadors reports on the 6th grade this week:

TMS 6th grade:

Science: Students are learning about weather, greenhouse effects and what it means to various jobs. The students are excited to be meteorologists, farmers, resort owners and many other jobs that depend on weather now and in the future.

Math: Students are learning the formulas to find the area of triangles, trapezoids, parallelograms and circles. Research partners first worked together to find the formulas using online resources, then added class notes, and lastly each student created a foldable booklet to use as a reference during their upcoming practice.

ELA: Language Arts: Students are starting a new novel unit for The Revealers by Doug Wilhelm. They will be holding weekly discussions about the book and having weekly written assignments about their reading. Students are also working through the writing process for their children's story which they will take through the full publishing stages by turning it into an illustrated book.

Social Studies: Students are working on their Roman timelines. Once we complete our studies of Ancient Rome, we will move on to Ancient China!

Important Announcements:

A new bike club is starting at TMS! Students have been riding bikes, learning about road safety, and the rules of the road. Donations of useable bikes are very much appreciated. Late busses will be running Monday-Friday at 5 p.m.

Important Dates:

April 27-29: Eighth grade MEA science testing will start.

April 29: The Fancy Dance from 7pm-9pm at TMS. The cost for the dance is \$5.

April 29: The TMS Star Assembly is at 7:50 a.m., and everyone is welcome to attend.

Game and Meets for spring sports start this week. Schedules for sports will be available on the school website.

May 2-3: Seventh graders will attend Bryant Pond 4-H Center, and a local sawmill/lumber yard.

May 3: Telstar Middle School's PTA will have a meeting at 6 p.m.

May 5: Is community career day here at Telstar from 12 p.m.-2 p.m. Students will choose a few presentations to attend, and will listen to a guest speaker.

May 6: The sixth grade will attend a gem show at Sunday River for education day.

May 11: NWEA testing starts for the middle school.

WMCC to host Women in Science & Technology Forum

White Mountains Community College, The New Hampshire Space Grant Consortium at UNH, and NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Agency) will host the Women in Science and Technology (WIST) Forum on Friday, April 29 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event, to be held at White Mountains Community College, is for high school girls thinking about college and career paths.

The Women in Science and Technology (WIST) Forum provides a unique opportunity to meet, listen to, and talk with professional women who have achieved remarkable successes in science, engineering, and technology.

Fields represented by our panelists at this year's WIST Forum are: civil engineering, accounting, environment science and policy, chemistry, coastal and ocean mapping, paleontology and paleoclimatology, ecological economics, geology, ecology and evolutionary biology, and dental hygiene.

BETHEL

Bethel Alliance Church-251 Walker's Mills Road, Rev. Kevin Bellinger, Senior Pastor and Nicholas Lutzo, Youth Pastor. Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School; 10 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery care and Children's Church are available). Wednesdays: 5:30-7 p.m. High School Youth Group; Thursdays: 5-7 p.m. Middle School Youth Group. FMI: 207-824-2289.

Bethel Church of the Nazarene - 16 Church Street, Bethel. Sunday School, 9:30 (for all ages). Pastor Peter Carter. Morning Worship 10:30. Wednesday evening 6 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study. FMI, transportation or prayer please contact Elaine Carter 415-9136 or Juanita Korhonen Keene 665-2528.

Church Services

Bethel Episcopal House Church - Bethel House Church meets the third Sunday of each month at 3 p.m. The location will rotate among member homes and the Intervale Meeting House, and The Rev. Nancy Moore from Christ Episcopal, Norway, leads the service and Eucharist. All are invited. FMI contact Rosemary Laban at 850-766-1241 or Christ Episcopal Church 207-743-6782.

Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Savior, Our Lady of the Snows - 265 Walkers Mills Road (Route 26). Fr. Gregory Dube may be reached at the parish office 364-4556. Saturday Mass, 6 p.m. Announcements. FMI: 824-2933.

West Parish Congregational - Church Street. Rev. Timothy LeConey. Sundays: 10 a.m. worship and Sunday School Sept.-May. Communion first Sunday of the month. Tuesdays: 8:30 a.m., informal Prayer Group with coffee in the Chapel.

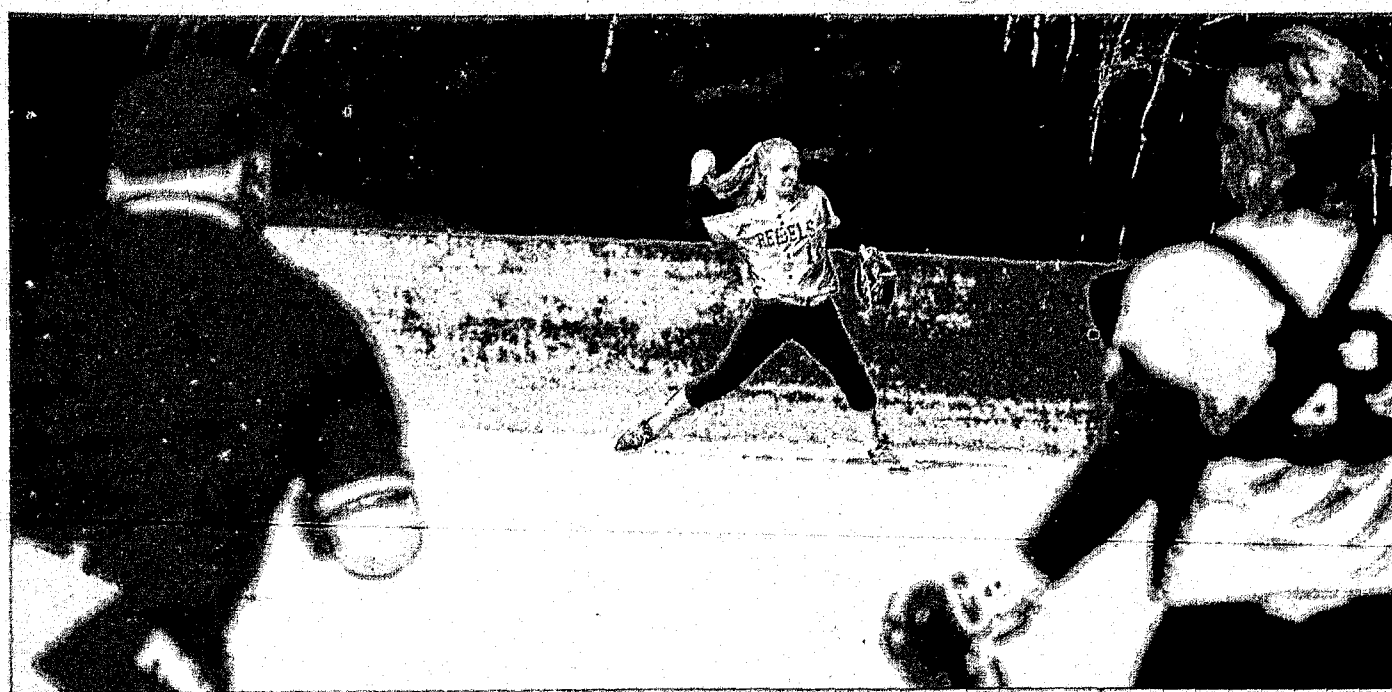
All are welcome. First Wednesday of the month: 8 a.m., Mens' Breakfast Group. Entrance in rear of church. All events open to everyone. This is an open and affirming congregation. FMI: 824-2689.

United Methodist - 79 Main Street. Pastor Carol Stevens. Sunday worship service 9 a.m. FMI: 824-2027.

West Bethel Union - Morning worship and 9 a.m. Sunday School. FMI: 836-3533.

Pleasant Valley Bible - Pastor Dave Fraher. Sunday Services: Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship Service, 10 a.m. Ladies Bible study Tuesday, 2:30 p.m. Midweek Bible study and prayer, Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana Club Fridays 3:30 to 5 p.m. (Cubbies ages 3/4; Sparks Grades K-2; children may take bus from school). FMI: 836-2828. Visit the Facebook page.

Sports



WINNING FORM-The Telstar High School Varsity Softball Team defeated St. Dom's 13-0 Monday in its home opener. Top, Rebel second baseman Lisa Gammon throws a runner out at first base (catcher Blair Stevens in foreground). Below, Telstar pitcher Olivia York winds up, and Tehya Johnson slides safely home with a run.

A. Aloisio



The Gould Academy Softball Team defeated Fryeburg Academy 17-5 on Friday in a home game. Above, Gould's Grace Schlierwagen connects for a single. Below, the Huskies' Jess Myers fields the ball in left field.

D. MacKnight/Gould Academy



High School Varsity Softball

Telstar 13, St. Dom's 0; April 25-Telstar opened the season with a 13-0 win over St. Dom's. Olivia York threw a one-hitter, striking out 7 Saints in the game. Tehya Johnson led the offense with three hits and 2 RBI's. Natasha Hart had 2 hits and 2 RBI's as well and Hayley Peterson had a 2 run double to add to the offense. The defense was solid and limited St. Dom' to only one base runner. Catcher Blair Stevens threw that runner out trying to steal second base. - Coach Jim Lunney

Gould 11, Lake Region 9; April 20- Gould softball rallied in the top of the 6th inning, scoring 8 runs off of 4 hits, to take a 10-9 lead and beating the Lakers 11-9. The Gould bats combined for 9 hits overall. Ashley Humpheys was 2 for 2 and had solid play behind the plate.

Gould 17, Fryeburg Academy 5; April 22- Gould started off the day down 1-0 going into the second inning in which they scored 7 runs and never looked back. The girls were led offensively by Aerin Young, Brenna Myles, and Jessika Myers each with 3 hits.

Gould 37, Kents Hill 16; April 23- Gould continued their success at the plate, combining for a total of 32 hits. The offensive explosion began in the third inning and continued for the remainder of the game, ending with scoring 18 runs in the top of the 6th inning. Leading the way was Brenna Myles with 5 hits and Ashley Humphreys, Jessika Myers, Eva McMillan, Emma Schiedegger, and Kim Drew all had 4 hits each.

High School Varsity Baseball

Telstar 2, Mountain Valley 0; April 22-The Telstar Rebels baseball team opened their season with a win over the Falcons of Mountain Valley. Tanner Wheeler threw a complete game shutout with 11 k's and was supported by an errorless defense. The game was a pitchers dual. After 5 innings the score was 0 to 0. In the 6th, Zac Hill reached on an error and Kellen True followed by taking advantage of a second error. Hunter Williamson moved the runners over and then Tanner Wheeler was intentionally walked to load the bases. With 1 out Josh Elliot was hit by a pitch that brought in the first run of the game. Fabian Corriveau followed with a sacrifice fly to center scoring the second run. "Tanner seemed to loosen up after the second inning and was spot on throughout the game. In the top of the 7th the lead off batter hit a nice double. I went to the mound knowing Tanner was alright but I wanted to make sure he didn't worry about the hit, the runner, or even giving up a run if it happened. I told him to just focus on the batter one at a time. Tanner proceeded to strike the next 3 batters out to end the game. It was nice to see Tanner's confidence on the mound. I would love to see our defense continue to play like they did today. They had their pitcher's back. It was a great win!" - Coach John Elliot

St. Dom's 13 Telstar 4; April 25- The Rebel boys lost their home opener to the Saints of St. Dom's Monday. The Saints got on the board first, scoring a run and then 2 more on 3 defensive errors. The Rebels took the lead scoring 4 runs in the bottom of the second. Reggie Westleigh drew a walk. Zac Hill got a base hit and Russ Cushman followed with another base hit to load the bases. Boston Ludden got another hit and drove in a run. Kellen True hit into a fielders choice, but drove in a second run. Josh Elliot followed with a base hit driving in 2 more runs. Although the Rebels were winning 4 to 3, starter Josh Elliot left the mound after the second inning due to shoulder problems. Boston Ludden came in and threw very well, but the Rebel defense could not hold together. They ended up committing 8 errors and allowing 9 unearned runs. Tanner Wheeler was the Rebels only repeat hitter. "Defensively I was beside myself. We went from playing errorless ball to committing 8 errors in a game. It just didn't make sense. I was glad to see Boston really step it up and throw a lot of strikes, but if we intend on winning we will need to play a lot better defense." - Coach John Elliot

High School Boys' J.V. Tennis

Kents Hill 3, Gould 2; April 20- Mike Wheeler and Ian Chen won first doubles and Kents Hill forfeited second doubles.

High School Boys' Varsity Lacrosse

Vermont Academy 10, Gould 2; April 20

Hebron 11, Gould 4; April 22

High School Girls' Varsity Lacrosse

Gould 6, Kents Hill 3; April 20- Gould beat Kents Hill School in a tough defensive battle. Gould went behind by two goals early in the game, but battled back to lead at half time. Brooke Kelly led all scorers with three goals. Molly Lento and Sophie Sczurko scored their first goals for Gould in the 6-3 win. Ashley Herrick was solid in the goal, stopping all of Kent Hill's free position shots.

Gould 11, New Hampton School 6; April 23

Regular meetings

MUNICIPAL

Bethel Selectmen: Second Monday of the month, 7 p.m., Town Office.

Bethel Planning Board: Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, 6 p.m., Town Office.

Bethel Water District: Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., Town Office.

Gilead Selectmen: Second Wednesdays of the month, 6 p.m., Town Office.

Gilead Planning Board: First Thurs-

days of the month, 7 p.m., Town Office.

Greenwood Selectmen: First and third Tuesdays of the month, 5 p.m., Town Office.

Hanover Selectmen: Third Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m. unless otherwise posted.

Hanover Planning Board: First Wednesday, 6 p.m.

Newry Selectmen: First and third Tuesdays of the month, 5 p.m., Town Office.

Newry Planning Board: First and third Wednesdays of the month, 7 p.m., Town Office.

Woodstock Selectmen: First and third Tuesdays, 5 p.m., Town Office.

Woodstock Planning Board: First and third Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Town Office

SAD 44 School Board: Second and/or fourth Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Telstar High School (occasionally meet at other schools; call 824-2185 for info or go to http://www.sad44.org/pages/MSAD_44_Bethel_School_Board).

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, April 28

What is Palliative Care? Course; 1 to 2:30 p.m., West Paris Library. A Long Distance Learning program presented by SeniorsPlus. Free with pre-registration, call 1-800-427-1241.

Building Kinder Communities; 3 to 4:15 p.m. at Crescent Park School Cafeteria. A free disabilities awareness program presented by the Cromwell Center for Disabilities Awareness. Sponsored by the Crescent Park School PTA for parents, teachers and community members. RSVP: CPS office 824-2839- please let us know if you need childcare. Refreshments served and free childcare will be available.

Third Thursday Poetry Group; 5:30 p.m., Rumford Library's public room. Refreshments and a social time are first on the agenda, then readings from our own or a favorite poet's work. There's a new twist on the program: studying poetic forms and styles. FMI: 364-3661 or rumford.lib.me.us.

Antiquarian Supper; 5 p.m. at Bethel Historical Society Mason House, 14 Broad Street. Admission by donation: \$10 adults, \$5 18 and under. Call 824-2908 to reserve a place. Dress up in old-fashioned clothing (prize for best costume), bring a relic or artifact, share old stories/anecdotes. A bountiful supper with ancient foods to sample, and modern fare. Traditional music. FMI: info@bethelhistoricalsociety.org.

April 29 and 30

Yard Sale; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thrifty Gift Shop, 659 Park Street, South Paris. Clothes, toys, some vintage items, household items and more. Volunteers will be needed. Full-day volunteers will receive a \$10 gift certificate to use at the sale. All funds raised will benefit Families in Crisis Task Force programs. FMI/Volunteer: Peggy (357-7072).

Saturday, April 30

Farm Pond Construction and Trout Stocking Workshop; 9 a.m., First Baptist Church of Paris. Presentations by NRCS Agricultural Engineer Candace Gilpatrick and Sonny Pierce of Shy Beaver Hatchery. Walk 'n' Talk to follow at local pond. Textbook, snacks and lunch included in \$20 registration fee. Pre-register at 743-5789 ext. 11. Sponsored by Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District.

Annual Birthday Supper; 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., Congregational Church, Andover. \$8 per person (\$4 for children under 10). Menu: Meatloaf, baked potatoes, string beans, salads, rolls and birthday cakes.

'80s Dance; 8 p.m. to midnight, Locke's Mills Legion Hall. 21+, BYOB. All your favorite 80s hits from your favorite 80s artists. Prize for the best 80s outfit. \$10 admission. Proceeds benefit THS Project Graduation.

Sunday, May 1

Woodland Cemetery Company Annual Meeting; 7 p.m., Stan Howe's house, 18 Broad Street. Anyone with a family connection is welcome.

May 2 and 3

Rumford Hospital Auxiliary InDesign Jewelry Sale; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Conference Room A, ground floor, Rumford Hospital. InDesign features jewelry, fabulous accessories, starting at \$6.

Monday, May 2

Socrates Café Meeting; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Waterford Library. Discussion topic: How Democratic Is Our Process of Choosing a President? Moderator: Jon Chappell. Light refreshments provided. FMI: 583-6957.

East Bethel Cemetery meeting; 7 p.m. at Grange Hall. Election of officers and the clean-up day will be decided.

Tuesday, May 3

Wellness Collaborative training; 1 to 5 p.m. at Bethel Alliance Church, 251 Walkers Mills Road in Bethel. There's a county-wide effort underway to reduce substance abuse and obesity by addressing isolation and disconnection as key factors bearing on health. The Oxford County Wellness Collaborative (OCWC) is currently providing trainings for people who would like to facilitate gatherings around Oxford County.

Public Hearing for input on possible future trail work at Maggie's Nature Park; 5 p.m., Greenwood Town Office. Blaine Mills, the primary volunteer who works on the park's trails, wants to hear from townspeople on whether they wish to see more trails built, as well as hear other general comments on the park.

Wednesday, May 4

Deer hunting presentation; 7 p.m. at the Town Hall in Locke's Mills. Dean Bennett will bring a rare and entertaining look, with a touch of mystery, about a long-held family tradition of deer hunting in western hills of Maine. He will intro-

duce his book, "Ghost Buck: The Legacy of One Man's Family and Its Hunting Traditions," with a Power-Point program of slides and video, tracing his family's hunting back into the 1800s and drawing from it lessons we can all learn from activities that bring families together. Everyone welcome. Sponsored by the Greenwood Historical Society.

May 6, 7 and 8

4th Annual New England Mineral Conference; Grand Summit Resort Hotel and Conference Center, Sunday River, Newry. Lectures, mineral exhibits, mineral dealers, auctions and a Sunday field trip. Friday, May 6, is Education Day, including a Poster Contest, for students in grades 3-12. New this year is a Friday evening banquet sponsored by the Maine Mineral and Gem Museum in Bethel. On Friday, May 6, from 9 to 4, dealer rooms, mineral displays, and educational areas are free and open to the general public. FMI/Registration: www.nemineraleducation.org and www.nemineraleducation.org.

Friday, May 6

Hunt's Corner Cemetery Assn. Annual Meeting; 6:30 p.m. at Betty Gingras' home, 1240 Hunt's Corner Road, Albany. FMI: 393-7141.

Improv Comedy Night with the Teacher's Lounge Mafia; 7 p.m., Norway Memorial Library. Performing in the style of "Who's Line is it Anyway?" The group consists of Natalie Simmons, Kyla Wheeler, Jeff Bailey, Phillip Hobby and Dan Ryder. Free tickets required to attend this event, available at the library beginning Monday, April 18. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. FMI: 743-5309 ext. 1 or norlib@norway.lib.me.us.

Saturday, May 7

Benefit Flap Jack Breakfast; 8 to 10 a.m., Applebee's, Oxford. \$10 per person/ Proceeds to benefit Dennis Cyr who has Lyme Disease and is out of work. Only 300 tickets will be sold. FMI/Tickets: Visit Crazy Sisters in Bryant Pond or call Bert or Jackie at 744-0555 or April at 557-2849.

Bethel Green-Up Day; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join the Bethel Conservation Commission to help clean up our public places. Gather at 9 a.m. at either Davis Park or Angevine Park to pick up trash bags and choose specific areas to clean. If you would rather clean another road or area, please tell Jessie Perkins at the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce - 824-2282 or jessie@bethelmaine.com. The CC will provide safety vests, trash bags, water and Energy Cookies. You will need gloves, sturdy shoes, and suitable clothing. Rain date May 14.

Old Fashioned Barn Dance; Mahoosuc Mountain Lodge, North Newry. Potluck supper (bring a dish to share) at 5:30, concert at 7 p.m. and dance at 8 p.m. with musicians Ellen, Molly and Edith Gawler. 50/50 raffle. Cost is \$10, ½ price for children under 16. FMI: 824-2073.

Monday, May 9

SAD 44 School Board meeting; 6:30 p.m. at Crescent Park Elementary School.

Bethel Selectmen's meeting; 7 p.m. at Bethel Town Office.

Public hearings on proposed Bethel sewer fees rate change and Sign Ordinance changes; 7 p.m. at Bethel Town Office.

Mahoosuc Community Band Spring Concert; 7 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church, Church Street, Bethel.

Tuesday, May 10

Telstar High School National Honor Society Annual Red Cross Blood Drive; 12 noon to 5 p.m., Telstar Gym. Anyone 17 or older can donate. Sixteen-year-olds can donate with signed parent/guardian consent if they meet the height and weight requirements. For more info or to schedule an appointment please talk to an Honor Society member, call the THS Office at 207-824-2136, e-mail Sarah Southam, NHS Chapter advisor, at southams@sad44.org, go online to the Red Cross website redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Supper Dance; 5 to 9:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, Locke's Mills. Menu: Baked ham, mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls and assorted pies. Music by the Shadagee Ramblers. Supper and Dance \$12, Supper only \$7, Dance only \$5. Doors open at 4.

Wednesday, May 11

Bethel Senior Citizens Club Meeting/Potluck; 11 a.m. at the Bethel Methodist Church. This is a potluck meal. Members will bring a dish to share. A \$3 donation is requested for the church.

NAMI FaithNet "Bridges of Hope" Free Presentation; 6 p.m., Rumford Point Congregational Church. Learn how to create stronger safety nets and welcoming communities of faith for people living with mental illness and their families. All are welcome. Refreshments provided. For more information: Dottie at 364-2197 or Christine at NAMI Maine 1-800-464-5767 or ccantybrooks@namimaine.org.

Thursday, May 12

Motorized trails and brook trout workshop; 6 p.m. at Mahoosuc Land Trust office in Bethel. The Androscoggin River Watershed Council (ARWC) will host the workshop to discuss how poorly maintained trails cause erosion which can impact streams, rivers and other water bodies that are home to native eastern brook trout. After a brief classroom session, at which sandwiches, drinks and snacks will be served, the workshop will move outdoors to a nearby erosion site where participants can brainstorm simple solutions.

Friday, May 13

NAMI Youth Mental Health First Aid Courses; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Region 9 Education Center, Mexico and Norway Town Office, Danforth Street, Norway. Free except for a \$5 lunch fee. Course results in a 3-year certification. This course is for anyone 16 or older that wants to learn how to help a person that may be experiencing a mental health related problem or crisis. FMI/Registration: www.namimaine.com.

Saturday, May 14

Inaugural May Day 5k; 10 a.m., Crescent Park School, Bethel. Hosted by Bethel Rotary. Proceeds benefit local programs for youth and families.

Oxford Hills Honey Bee Club's workshop; 1 p.m. at the Oxford County Extension Center, 9 Olson Road, South Paris. Weather permitting, lifetime bee keeper, Ken Record, will demonstrate how to do an even split. Do not forget your veils. Public welcome. FMI contact Chris at cpeaston@megalink.net or visit mainehoneybees.com.

Sunday, May 15

Rescheduled Upton Ladies' Aid Mother's Day Breakfast; 8 a.m., Upton Ladies' Aid building.

Monday, May 16

Uptown Cruizahs Cruise Night; 6 to 8 p.m., Tractor Supply, Route 26, Oxford. Proceeds benefit local charities including the activity fund at the Maine Veterans' Home and Santa Visits Oxford. FMI: Les Wing (890-0870) or Dan Tripp (743-8073).

Tuesday, May 17

Public Hearing on Newry ballot question on whether to stop the school withdrawal process; 5 p.m., Bear River Grange Hall.

Saturday, May 21

Relay for Life, Flying Monkey's team yard sale fundraiser; 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (location to be determined and updated). The team is looking for donations for the sale. Donations of household items, small furniture, kitchen items, books, tools, etc. are being sought from now until May 20. No large furniture or clothing please. Items can be dropped off at Bethel Kitchen's on Main St. Any questions please email flyingmonkeysrelay1@gmail.com

Annual Greenwood Town Meeting; 9 a.m., American Legion Post, 595 Gore Road, Greenwood.

Texas Hold'em Tournament; Jackson-Silver Post 69, American Legion, 595 Gore Road, Locke's Mills. Doors open at 11 a.m., games begin at noon. \$50 buy-in, \$5 license, high-hand option. Meals and beverages available. BYOB. FMI: Ray (890-3737).

Sunday, May 22

Shadagee Ramblers to benefit SeniorsPlus Meals on Wheels Program; 2 to 5 p.m., American Legion Hall, 595 Gore Road, Locke's Mills. \$10 per person at the door, under 12 free. Live music, 50/50 raffle, pie auction, refreshments and more.

Reception and Fine Art Auction; 3 p.m. at the Matolcsy Art Center, 480 Main Street, Norway, by the Western Maine Art Group and Norway Downtown. The kick-off event for this year's festival, there will be a silent and a live auction. Works from the WMAG's collection and by current members will be auctioned by Terry Swett. All proceeds will support the 2016 Norway Arts Festival July 8 and 9. Items to be auctioned include oil paintings by renowned local artists Duncan Slade, Vivian Akers, and Minnie Libby. In addition, drawings by "Shavey" Noyes and pieces by current Western Maine Art Group artists will be auctioned. Refreshments will be served. Each year, the Western Maine Art Group and Norway Downtown collaborate to stage the Norway Arts Festival, closing Main Street to traffic to create a relaxed pedestrian mall for artists, artisans, musicians, non-profit exhibitors, and vendors. Find out more at norway-artsfestival.org.

Saturday, June 4

Community Yard Sale and Vendor Event; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Oxford Hills Middle School, North Campus Football Fields at 100 Pine Street in South Paris. Rent a spot at the football field for \$10. Proceeds benefit #AQuestforCommunityOHMS, for the school and donations to a charity or cause that is important to the students.

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Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

WORD FUN

Study the two words on each line to find the ONE letter in the left column that is NOT in the word in the right column. Write the extra letter on the blank space. Then read DOWN to answer this riddle:

WHAT GETS SHARPER EVERY TIME YOU USE IT?

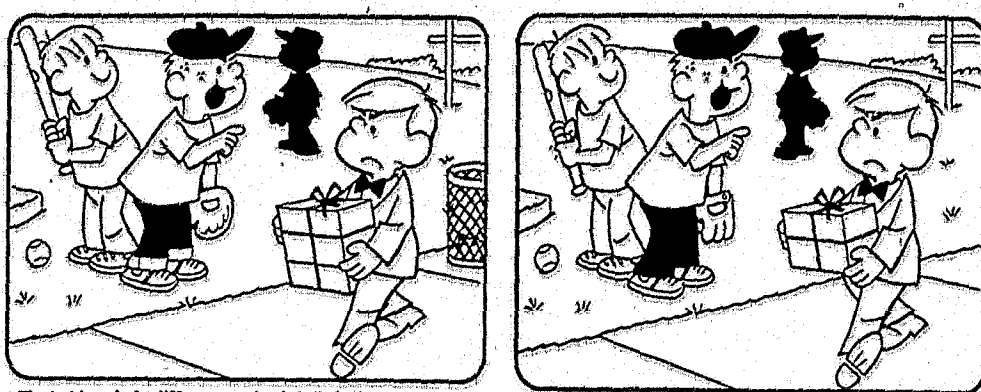
GREASY	—	RAGES	TABLES	—	LEAST
PASTOR	—	STRAP	RETURN	—	TUNER
STUPOR	—	PORTS	RAIDER	—	DRIER
PARCEL	—	PLACE	CLAIRE	—	CLEAR
			HAVENS	—	SHAVE

For more puzzle fun, go to www.brainzzles.com

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



1. Bat is lowered. 2. Glove is different. 3. Cuffs are missing. 4. Figure is reversed. 5. Box is smaller. 6. Trash can is missing.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: P equals V

HB C AVM LVE FVSSVHTTJQN
CLVNJT C FJNMCHS MVRRHSE,
FVQKL PVQ TCP AJ NJCKKP
NJKHTAJT AHT BVVL?

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Pattern
TOULAY
Blast
STURB
Poster
HOTBER
Object
POTTERS

TODAY'S WORD

Super Crossword

EMPLOYEE-CONSUMER POLICY

ACROSS
1 P.E. place
4 Honey ples
9 "the time!"
14 FBI tactics
19 Kaval necklace
20 Muslim's god
21 Range brand
22 Forever, in poetry
23 Cask wood
24 "Resident Evil" actress
25 Of warships
26 Tribal groups
27 Start of a riddle
31 Writer Wolfe
32 "Pow!"
33 Longtime NBC host
34 "Right back!"
36 Buy
39 German for "love"
42 Parish leader
44 Riddle, part 2
49 Pressing tool
50 "... or — gather"
51 Big blue body
52 Feel pain
53 Danted
54 Insufficient

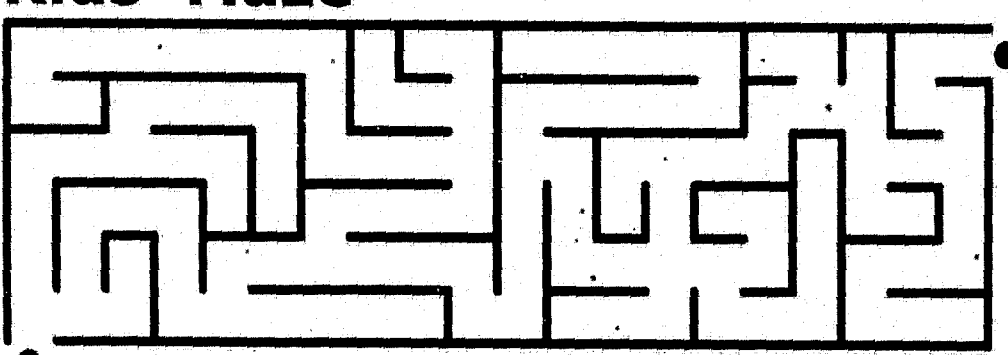
104 Brand found at Petco
107 Blamish a diamond
108 Riddle's answer
115 "A Lesson From Aloes" playwright
116 Piano exercise
117 Keats' "— a Grecian Urn"
118 Seemingly forever
119 Diplomat
120 Old lax alternative
121 Tooth: Prefix
122 Tango team
123 Curving billiards shot
124 A Lot of politics
125 "Bullit" director
126 Hem, e.g.

DOWN
1 Luminesce
2 "You bet!"
3 Evander Holyfield rival
4 Moistened floor wiper
5 Nobelist
6 Let happen

7 "Wreck-It" (Disney film)
8 Clinton cabineteer
9 Ma's ma
10 Sharif of Hollywood
11 Ripple
12 Bowled over
13 Styling site
14 Big lamb cut
15 Start of a simple request
16 Volunteer's declaration
17 "A pox upon thee," updated
18 The "S" of GPS: Abbr.
28 Not at all exciting
29 Arab VIPs
30 One using a lasso
35 Museum pieces
36 Au —
37 Gillette offering
38 Savior
40 Manage, with "out"
41 Slow cooker of a sort
43 Facade
45 Speckled horse
46 Diner freebie

47 Huntley of news
48 Jabba the —
54 Dover fish
55 Ice dancing gold medalist
57 Alaska river
58 Fabergé collectibles
59 Utmost in degree
60 "Well, well, well!"
61 One of a D.C. 100
62 Chanel of fragrances
63 Welter, weatherwise
64 Similarly defined wd.
65 Gradient
66 "Swoosh"
67 FedExCup org.
68 Bracelet spot
69 DVD —
73 "Law & Order: SVU" co-star
74 "— of Eden" oil port
75 Far from firm
76 "— Ca-Dabra" (1974 hit)
80 Certain instrument inserts
81 Bloom, in Barcelona
82 Gangbusters
83 Unit of bricks
84 Result
86 "By the way" memo abbr.
87 "Try to — my way ..."
89 Without — (perfect) linkup
91 Celestial Seasonings offering
92 Japanese motorcycles
93 Hot-breathed beasts
94 Christie sleuth Poirot
95 En masse
96 Natives of 110-Down
102 Football player Favre
103 Perfume compound
105 Jason jilted her
106 Aroma
109 Elation
110 Midwestern oil port
111 Adjacent (to)
112 Table d'—
113 Libertine guy
114 Winter fall
115 USN honcho

Kids' Maze

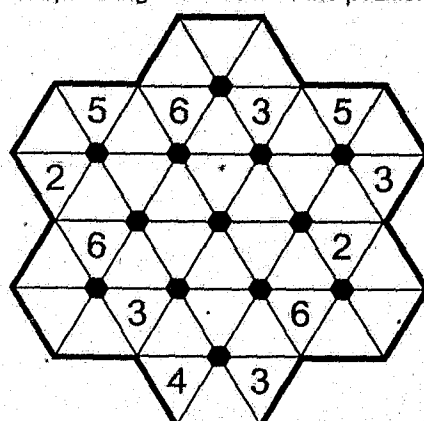


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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦♦
♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦♦ Difficult

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

6	7	1		9	
9			6	8	1
8			5	2	4
1		6		5	2
4	8	5		7	
	6		8		4
1	9	8		7	
2			9		8
3		2	7	5	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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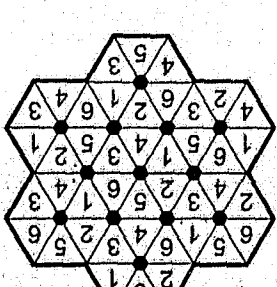
Kids' Maze Solution

HOBBY
Today's Word
3. Bother; 4. Protest
1. Layout; 2. Burst
solution
answer
relishes his food?

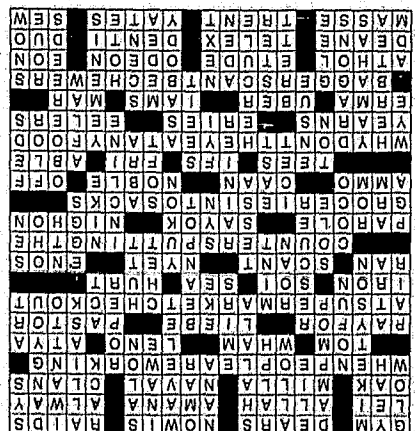
CryptoQuip

GREASY
PASTOR
STUPOR
PARCEL
PLACE
LEAST
TUNER
DRIER
CLEAR
SHAVE

Puzzles4Kids



SNOWFLAKES



Super Crossword
Answers
1. Luminesce
2. "You bet!"
3. Evander Holyfield rival
4. Moistened floor wiper
5. Nobelist
6. Let happen
7. "Wreck-It" (Disney film)
8. Clinton cabineteer
9. Ma's ma
10. Sharif of Hollywood
11. Ripple
12. Bowled over
13. Styling site
14. Big lamb cut
15. Start of a simple request
16. Volunteer's declaration
17. "A pox upon thee," updated
18. The "S" of GPS: Abbr.
28. Not at all exciting
29. Arab VIPs
30. One using a lasso
35. Museum pieces
36. Au —
37. Gillette offering
38. Savior
40. Manage, with "out"
41. Slow cooker of a sort
43. Facade
45. Speckled horse
46. Diner freebie
47. Huntley of news
48. Jabba the —
54. Dover fish
55. Ice dancing gold medalist
57. Alaska river
58. Fabergé collectibles
59. Utmost in degree
60. "Well, well, well!"
61. One of a D.C. 100
62. Chanel of fragrances
63. Welter, weatherwise
64. Similarly defined wd.
65. Gradient
66. "Swoosh"
67. FedExCup org.
68. Bracelet spot
69. DVD —
73. "Law & Order: SVU" co-star
74. "— of Eden" oil port
75. Far from firm
76. "— Ca-Dabra" (1974 hit)
80. Certain instrument inserts
81. Bloom, in Barcelona
82. Gangbusters
83. Unit of bricks
84. Result
86. "By the way" memo abbr.
87. "Try to — my way ..."
89. Without — (perfect) linkup
91. Celestial Seasonings offering
92. Japanese motorcycles
93. Hot-breathed beasts
94. Christie sleuth Poirot
95. En masse
96. Natives of 110-Down
102. Football player Favre
103. Perfume compound
105. Jason jilted her
106. Aroma
109. Elation
110. Midwestern oil port
111. Adjacent (to)
112. Table d'—
113. Libertine guy
114. Winter fall
115. USN honcho

Weekly SUDOKU
Answers
6 4 7 1 8 3 9 3 2 5
5 9 2 4 7 6 8 1
3 8 1 6 5 2 6 4 7
9 1 3 6 4 8 5 2
4 2 8 6 1 8 7 3 6
7 5 6 3 8 1 9 4
1 6 8 4 5 2 7 3
2 7 6 8 9 1 4 6 8
8 3 4 6 2 7 5 1 9

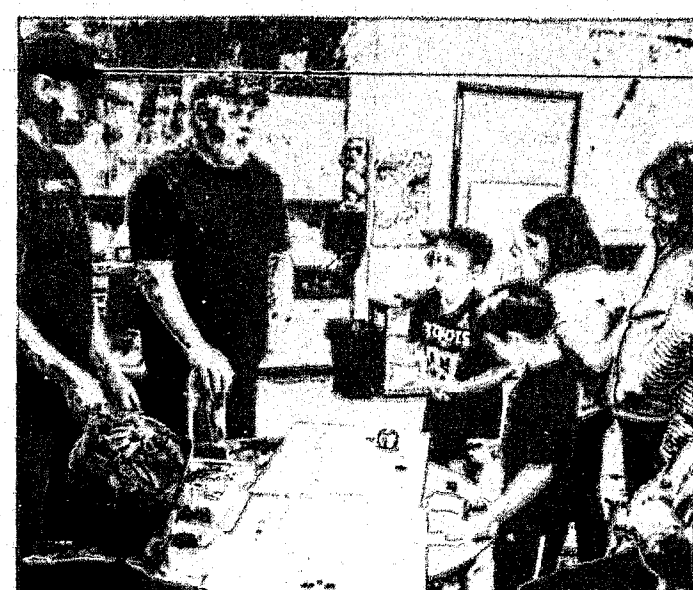
The Satellite

Newsletter of School Administrative District #44: Bethel • Greenwood • Newry • Woodstock

WOODSTOCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



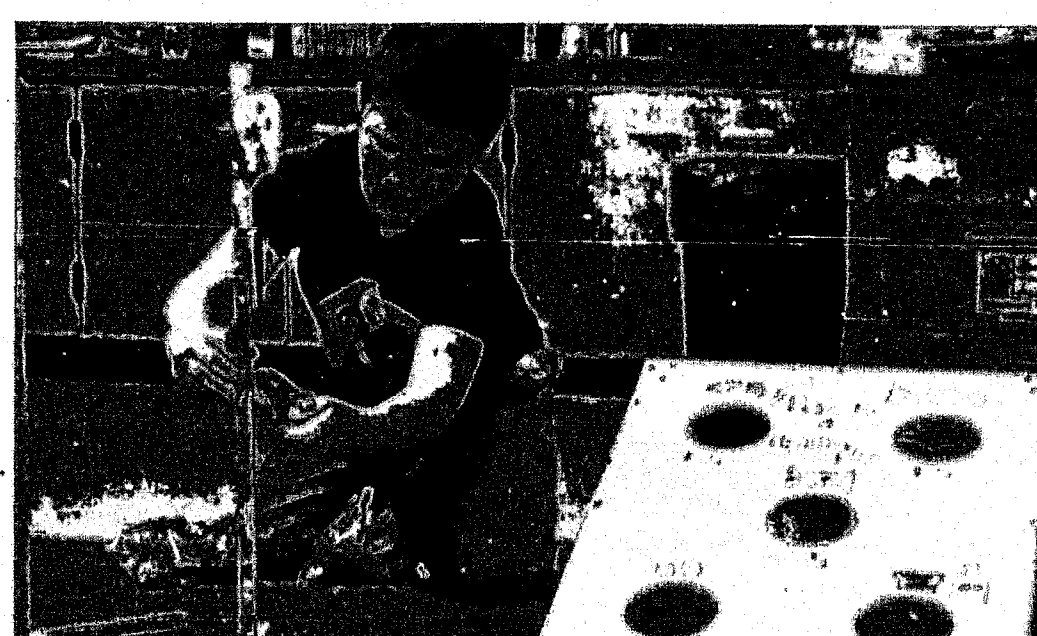
WES fifth graders made ceramic fish wind chimes with the art teacher, Ms. Oliver, to donate to the Atlantic Salmon Federation. The wind chimes were part of an auction that was held in Freeport, Maine on April 2. All the proceeds went to the Atlantic Salmon Federation to help restore the population of this endangered species. WES fifth graders are currently raising 200 Atlantic Salmon in their classroom. The salmon will be released in May.



First grader Cooper Morgan playing the game he created as part of our study on the human body, called Human Body Race, with his brother, dad, and grandfather as other family members watch.



Mrs. Wentworth's first grade class assembling a puzzle of the human body as part of their curriculum on the human body.



Sawyer demonstrates his game, "Race to a Healthy System."

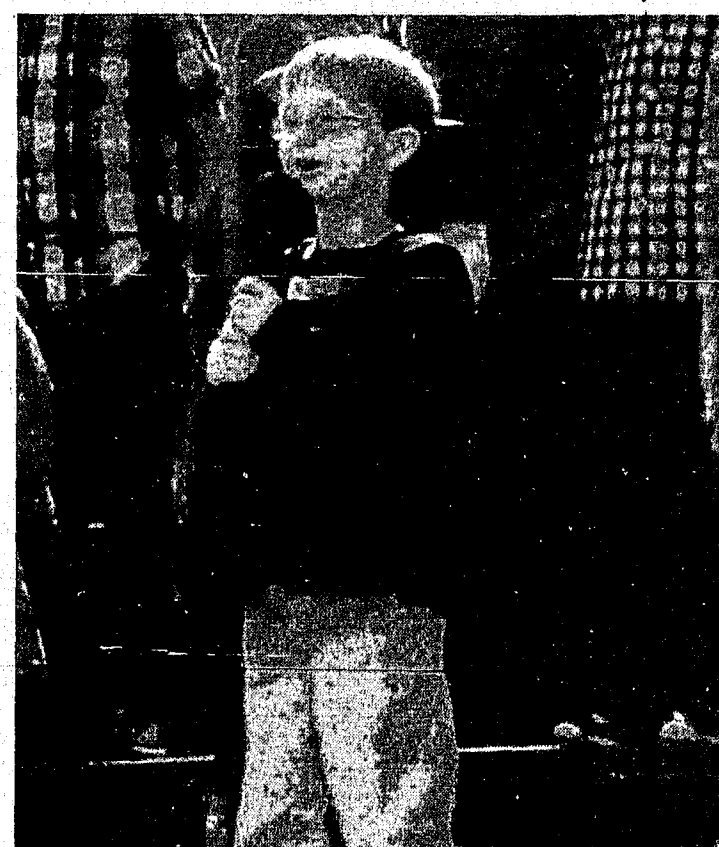


WES teacher Tonya Prentice tests a dam built by her fifth-grade students during a hands-on science lesson in which they worked in teams to design, construct, assess, and reinforce their dams, while working within a budget and considering their impact on the environment.

DISTRICT MUSIC NEWS



These 5th and 6th graders participated in the District II music festival at Lincoln Middle School on March 31. Left to right: Tess Fultz, Reid Johnston, Corinne Nivus, Gabrielle Groves, Brianna Benson, Madison MacKillop, and Caroline Seikman



CPS second grader Whyatt Perham sings a solo in "Home on the Range."

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Classifieds

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Back to Life exercise machine for back pain. Asking \$125, paid over \$300 when new. Also, two new men's suits, never worn, asking \$25 each. 824-2635.

FOR SALE: THREE DECK GRATES. All one inch thick, all 10.5 inches wide. Two 96.25 inches long, one 90.5 inches long. \$40 each or \$100 for all three. 824-3813.

WANTED

Antiques/collectibles: Estate/one item. FREE estimates. Call Mike or Louanne RUMFORD CENTER ANTIQUES, INN AND AUCTIONS. 1384 RT. 2 Rumford Center, (207) 357-5951, or thibbs3@gmail.com

HELP WANTED

CLEANING PERSON NEEDED for Camp Encore-Coda in Sweden. Late June through mid August. 15-20 hours per week, mornings. For more information please contact James Saltman at 617-325-1541 or jamie@encore-coda.com

Drivers: CDL - A 1 yr. exp., Earn \$1,250+ per week, Great Weekend Hometime, Excellent Benefits & Bonuses, 100% No Touch/70% D & H 888-406-9046

FOOD SERVICE HELPERS AND DISHWASHERS NEEDED for Camp Encore-Coda in Sweden. Full time. Mid June through mid August. Contact Ellen Donohue-Saltman at 617-325-1541 or ellen@encore-coda.com

617-325-1541 or ellen@encore-coda.com

HOUSEKEEPERS NEEDED for part-time cleaning. Good pay! 207-890-5357

GREAT PART TIME HOUSEKEEPING JOB. Seeking responsible, self motivated person. Must be able to work Saturday's July & August. Starting pay \$13.00/hr, with increases depending on experience. Call Tama Drown, cell 207-632-7212 Hideaway Rentals & Prop. Mgmt, LLC

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FOR RENT

3 BEDROOM APARTMENT, located at 171 Main Street, Bethel. Available April 1. Large kitchen, dishwasher, washer/dryer hookup, immaculate. No smoking, no pets. 824-4836.

AVAILABLE NOW: BETHEL VILLAGE: Cozy 3-bedroom ski house. Professional persons/family up to 4. Fully furnished, great location on Mountain Explorer route. 207-824-2340 (seasonal or monthly)

BETHEL DUPLEX: 2 bedrooms, loft on third level. Full bath, Jacuzzi, fireplace, garage, 2 decks, views, washer/dryer, dishwasher, electric and heat included. \$850. 603-552-3295, cell 603-247-2081.

BRYANT POND: Spacious 3 bedroom apartment, hardwood & vinyl floors, dishwasher, porch, no pets, non-smoking building. \$850/month includes heat, hot water, trash, snow removal. 665-2265

FOR RENT: Furnished, heated 1 bedroom apartment in Hanover. 5 minutes from Sunday River Ski Resort. No smoking, no pets. 824-3342.

FOR RENT: TWO 2nd FLOOR APARTMENTS in town Bethel. Available April 1st. Seasonal or long-term. Good pets welcome. Non-smoking building. 824-2336 or 824-2362.

LARGE 1ST FLOOR, ONE BEDROOM, APARTMENT located on Main Street in Bethel. \$675/month includes heat and electricity. No pets or smoking allowed. Call 824-3200

LARGE 3RD FLOOR, ONE BEDROOM, APARTMENT located on Main Street in Bethel. \$875/month includes heat and electricity. No pets or smoking allowed. Call 824-3200.

MASON ST., BETHEL, MAINE: 1 & 3 BEDROOM FURNISHED APARTMENTS. AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY. INCLUDES PARKING, TRASH, AND HEAT. RATE DEPENDS ON LENGTH OF LEASE. STORAGE RENTAL ALSO AVAILABLE. CALL PAT: 207-824-8060

RECENTLY RENOVATED 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT, 63 Main Street, Bethel above law office of Siegel & Crockett, and opposite IGA, available early May. Living room, kitchen, full bath, with private entrance. Some mountain views. \$750/month includes heat, water, sewer, wireless internet, parking. 824-2247.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SPACE NOW AVAILABLE on first floor of 14 Main Street in Bethel. 144-180 sqft office comes with shared Lobby, conference room and Kitchen facilities. Heat, electric and internet included for \$350/month. Call 824-3200

HELP WANTED

Part-time and full-time **IN-HOME HEALTHCARE and PERSONAL CARE ASSOCIATES.** Immediate openings.

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HELP WANTED Girls Varsity Field Hockey Coach

Gould Academy is seeking a Girls Varsity Field Hockey Coach for the upcoming Fall 2016 season. The ideal candidate will have playing and/or coaching experience. Duties include conducting practices, coaching games, and mentoring student-athletes. Candidates need to be available for afternoon practices and games in accordance with the school schedule. If you are interested or have additional questions feel free to contact Andrew Leach, Athletic Director via email: leacha@gouldacademy.org.

To apply please visit www.GouldAcademy.org and review the complete job description. Fill out the job application and submit it along with a letter of interest and resume to Deborah Menezes, Gould Academy, PO Box 860 • Bethel, ME 04217 or email the information to menezesd@gouldacademy.org.

GouldAcademy

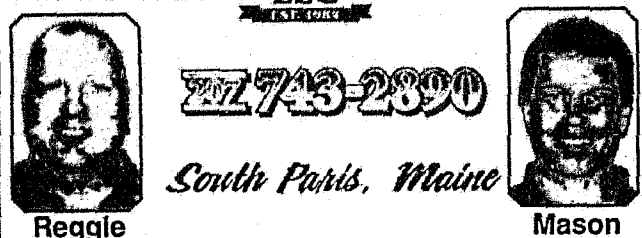
Gould Academy is an EOE.

HELP WANTED

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Oxford County Reporter

Sun Journal

The Newsroom is looking for a news reporter to cover a general assignment beat in Oxford County, Maine. You will be based in our Norway Bureau.

The job includes covering live news events, courts, crime and town government, which involves a flexible work schedule, including some nights and weekends. The successful applicant will have a demonstrated capability to file timely and accurate reports. Must also display the ability and enthusiasm to tell stories visually with images and digital video. Candidate should be savvy and comfortable with using social media to curate stories and story ideas.

Cover letter must include the skills and talents you might bring to this award-winning news organization. Please include writing and photography samples or links to your work online. This is an exciting opportunity to work for a dynamic team with an excellent benefits package and compensation. Forward resume and cover letter to:

Sun MEDIA GROUP

Sun Journal
Attn: Human Resources
P.O. Box 4400, Lewiston, ME 04240-4400
Or email: humanresources@sunjournal.com

Sun Journal is a division of the Sun Media Group

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824-2444 The Bethel Citizen 19 Main St, Bethel

TOWN OF BETHEL COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The Town of Bethel is seeking volunteers to serve on various town committees. Persons interested in serving on the committees listed below should submit an application form to the Town Office. To obtain an application form go to our web site www.bethelmaine.org, call 207-824-2669, pick up from the Town Office, or email us at info@bethelmaine.org. All applications must be received by 12 PM, Wednesday, May 4, 2016.

Committee (Years)	Number of Vacancies	Length of Term
Appeals Board	1	2
Bingham Forest Authority	1	2
Bingham Forest Authority	1	1
Planning Board	1	3
Local Health Officer	1	

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Obituaries



KENNETH H. RAMAGE

Kenneth Haycroft Ramage - age 96, passed away peacefully on Tuesday April 19, 2016 at Maine General Medical Center in Augusta.

He was born on March 30, 1920 in Lincoln, New Hampshire to Oswald Patterson Ramage and Anna Haycroft Ramage. He attended schools in Lincoln and upon graduation in 1938 went to work as a papermaker for Marcal Paper Company.

With the out break of war, he enlisted in the Army on Dec. 30, 1941. He did his basic training at Camp Croft in South Carolina after which he became a weapons instructor. In 1943, he was sent overseas where he was assigned to the 2nd Division, 38th Infantry Company A. He was a Staff Sergeant and landed on Omaha Beach June 8, two days after D-Day. There

he spent 370 days in battle, 217 of them consecutively including the Battle of the Bulge and three other major campaigns. During his service, he was awarded a Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Presidential Citation, Good Conduct Medal and a special Diploma for his aid in the fight to liberate France.

Ken met his wife, Sarah Elizabeth Buzzell, in Lincoln, N.H., where she was working as a waitress. They married on July 18, 1942 and were married for 72 years. Ken worked at the paper mill and became union president. He later was recruited by the AFL-CIO to become a Union Organizer and was asked to relocate to Maine. In 1956, he moved his family to Bethel so his two children could attend Gould Academy. Some of Ken's greatest memories are related to the home he built on Paradise Hill in Bethel where he lived for over 50 years. Ken was a papermaker for 10 years and a Union Organizer for 33 years, negotiating union contracts and organizing paper companies in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. In 1967, Ken was appointed to the University of Maine board of Trustees by Governor Curtis where he served for 8 years.

Ken was also an avid

hunter and enjoyed fishing the lakes and streams of Maine and New Hampshire. He enjoyed camping with his family and developed a love of sailing during his retirement. He was a Boy Scout leader for years and a member of the West Parish Congregational Church in Bethel for over 50 years. He was recently recognized by the Hallowell American Legion for his membership of 70 years and by the Maine Health Care Association Remember Me Program.

Ken was predeceased by his wife Sarah and is survived by his two sons Richard H. Ramage and his wife Gail of La Quinta, Calif., Timothy J. Ramage and his wife Jill of Chelsea, Maine, 6 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

The family would like to express their appreciation to the staff and employees of the Maine Veterans Home in Augusta for the wonderful care they gave Ken over the last few years.

A service and burial will take place later this summer in Bethel.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Plummer Funeral Home, 16 Pleasant St., Augusta, ME. Condolences, photos and stories may be shared at www.plummerfh.com.

Backyard reflections

By SARA WRIGHT

The Sky Dancer

The last time I was in the dentist's office Dr. Mason astonished me when he asked me if I knew that woodcocks have an upside down brain. I certainly did not know this astounding fact although I am very fond of these "shore birds" and look forward to their return each spring. Unfortunately the dentist's office is not the best place to have a two-way conversation so, sadly, I left without getting the full story.

It turns out that the brain of the American woodcock is unique among birds. The cerebellum, which controls muscle coordination and body balance, is located below the rest of the brain and above the spinal column. For most birds, the cerebellum occupies the rear of the skull. One theory suggests that as the woodcock evolved, its eyes moved back in the skull, its bill lengthened and the nostrils approached the base of the bill, allowing for better ground - probing abilities. As a result, the brain was rearranged, and the modern bird, in essence, has an upside-down brain!

The woodcock is one of the most fascinating birds to look at. Approximately the size of a mourning dove the woodcock has a bill that looks too long for its round body, and ears that are placed forward on the face, between the eyes and the bill. To help guard against predation from above the large piercing black eyes are set high on the back of the woodcock's skull. A woodcock's visual field is probably the largest of any bird, 360 degrees in the horizontal plane and 180 degrees on the vertical plane - a distinct advantage when foraging in the soil.

The woodcock's long bill has a flexible tip especially adapted for probing into moist earth in search of earthworms. A unique bone and muscle arrangement lets the bird open and close the tip of its upper bill, or mandible. It can eat its weight in worms each day! According to one source, woodcocks rock back and forth while foraging and these vibrations may bring earthworms to the surface. (Robins apparently do the same kind of thing by tapping the ground) Woodcocks also eat other invertebrates including snails, millipedes, spiders, beetles and ants. An adult woodcock weighs 8-12 ounces, is 10-12 inches

in length and has a wingspan of 17-19 inches.

Last fall when I met a woodcock on the Gore road he was rocking back and forth as he walked on the wet pavement. Hoping he was not hurt I got out of the car and had a chance to get within about three feet of him. I was fascinated to see this bird's coloring close up. He was most beautifully feathered in gray, buff, soft browns and black. Intending to pick up him to remove him from harms way I was delighted to see him rise up almost vertically for about thirty feet before disappearing into the thick brush that lines the edge of North Pond.

Superbly camouflaged against the leaf litter the multi colored woodcock walks slowly along the forest floor, probing the soil with its long bill. Like its coastal relatives (it is related to sandpipers) this plump little shorebird lives in moist young forests and shrubby fields across the eastern half of North America and southern Canada. Its cryptic plumage and low-profile behavior make it hard to find except in the springtime when the males are calling females by using a loud nasal peet and are performing dazzling aerial displays at dawn, dusk, and even on bright moonlit nights.

From my point of view the woodcocks evening display flights are one of the most magical natural sights of springtime. Woodcocks are sky dancers! In my small field the woodcock makes a number of buzzy peet calls from the ground and then he takes off flying high in the air moving in a wide spiral. As he gets higher his wings start to whistle. At about 2-300 feet his calling becomes intermittent and he starts his steep descent, zigzagging and banking while singing a liquid song until he lands silently near a female. The male then courts the hen by walking stifflegged and with his wings stretched vertically. He also bobs and bows. Once on the ground, if there is no female, the male resumes peeting and the display begins again.

Each spring I listen for the tell tale sound, which is really impossible to describe but once heard and identified it is impossible to forget before walking down to the upper edge of my small field to watch the evening show (this year I heard the first peet about a week ago). I have only seen a female waiting for the male a few times

over the years, but then this startling performance begins at dusk (or dawn) and curiously the literature says that these birds perform their aerial display sometimes long after breeding and nesting.

Male woodcocks have a number of different partners and play no role in raising the young who are born with downy fluff in a shallow depression that the female creates in the forest leaf litter. The female raises one brood a year and she can lay one to five eggs. The young leave the "nest" in a few hours and can begin feeding themselves in a few days. At four weeks the young are as big as their parents and are foraging alone. Most woodcocks migrate (at night) southward for the winter leaving in late October and returning here early in the spring during late March. In fact, along with the turkey vultures, woodcocks are considered harbingers of spring, and this year appears to be no exception.

Woodcocks need deciduous forests, old fields and clearings for roosting at night. They display in forest openings. They seem to have a penchant for moist riverside/lakeside areas, wet meadows (like mine) and young woodlands, and they flock to similar habitat when they reach their wintering grounds.

The literature is confusing when it comes to conservation issues. Most sources agree that woodcock populations are in decline especially in New England, some mid-Atlantic states and Minnesota due to habitat loss and use of pesticides. Because woodcocks forage on the forest floor they can accumulate aerial/gardening pesticides in their bodies. Their heavy dependence on earthworms also makes them vulnerable to poisoning by lead, cadmium and other heavy metals. The woodcock has been put on the "State of the Birds Watch List" which lists species most in danger of extinction without significant conservation action. This suggests to me that there might be a need for immediate concern. Woodcocks are also one of the few shorebirds that continue to be hunted, yet hunting has not been shown to influence large scale population trends probably because it is not easy to flush these birds out of the dense underbrush.

As I finish this article I am listening to the mourning doves song, the male cardinal's whistling call, the twittering finches and pine siskins...The roof is shedding another round of slushy snow. My neighbor Rose has already spotted her bluebirds; she also has robins, grackles and redwings, the latter of which are singing up a storm down by the lower brook. On the vernal equinox the first turkey vulture banked overhead. Spring is here and I have already heard the sound of the woodcock's first peet.

MOTHER NATURE SPRUNG A SPRING
snowstorm on the region Tuesday, whitening the crocuses at Pooh Corner Farm in Gilead.

Carole Duplessis



MOVIE SHOWTIMES
Fri-Mon, Apr 29-May 2

Jungle Book (PG)
12:30, 2:45, 5:15, 7:30

Anomalisa (R)
12:30 & 2:30

PRINCE TRIBUTE!
Purple Rain (R)
4:30 & 7:00

Join us at The Gerni
23 Crown St, Bethel, ME (207)824-8248

The WOODSTOCK Town Office
will be **CLOSING** on **MAY 2 at 1:30** so the staff can attend elections training in Bethel.

Thank You
Thank you to everyone for the beautiful cards, phone calls, flowers, and visits while I was in rehab and since returning home. To the doctors and staff at Stephens, the nurses and therapy group at rehab. George and helper for making the horse racing so much fun. To a special roommate. To Judy for giving up your time to be at meetings, doctor's appointments, and doing errands I can't. To Norm and Daniel for raking and cleaning up at home. For the phone calls and just being there for me. To Irene and Tim for always taking care of so many things. To Meredith and Dottie for the delicious food. I am blessed to have such a great family and friends.
God Bless,
Evelyn

You Are Invited to a Ladies Luncheon
Theme: You Are Such a Doll (Psalm 139:14)
Saturday, May 7th at 12:30 pm
Pleasant Valley Bible Church
407 Flat Rd West Bethel

Contact Cindy Fraher at 836-3006
cindyfraher@gmail.com
or June at 824-2037 for more information

Hunts Corner Cemetery Association Annual Meeting will be held
May 6 at 6:30 pm
at the home of Betty Gingras
1240 Hunts Corner Road
Albany
FMI 207-393-7141

Rite Aid Pharmacy Presents
THE FIRST ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK
to Benefit Barbara Bush Children's Hospital and Children's Miracle Network
Saturday, April 30
Registration: 8am
\$10 to register day of race
Race: 9am
Crescent Park School
19 Crescent Lane ~ Bethel
This is a family and pet friendly event. Everyone is invited to participate!
FMI: Contact Terri at Rite Aid: (207) 824-8085

CRAFT FAIR
to benefit Children's Miracle Network
Saturday, April 30 9am-2pm
at Bethel Rite Aid
Featuring crafts and over 20 raffles!

PINE GROVE CEMETERY MEETING
THURSDAY MAY 5, 2016 at 10:00am
at Freda Davis' home
35 Flat Road, Bethel
FMI 836-3323

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E-Mail: cliffmimigray@gmail.com

80'S DANCE
21 AND OVER BYOB
SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH
8PM-12AM
@ Locke Mills Legion Hall
\$10 ADMISSION
(PROCEEDS BENEFIT THIS PROJECT GRADUATION)

MAY

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